

# University Support Staff Senate Meeting

*March 11, 2015*

**Present** – Matt Albers, Denecia Angleton, Connie Basquez, Johnny Buchanan-Spacheck, Danielle Gabor, Christina Gregory, Matt Houston, Addie James, Shelly Kellogg, Ali Levine, Shirley Lewis, Angela Linder, Walter Mayne, Sheryl McKelvey, Dale Mauser, Robbie Norton, Stacy Salters, Randy Sessions, Micah Thompson, Connie Wells, Michelle White & Carrie Wyatt.

**Excused absent** – Sherry Alexander, Bryan Carter, Christina Clarkson & Renea Goforth.

**Unexcused absent** – Brenda Achey, Shaleah Fields, Michael Hinkle, Amy McClintock, Angie Tucker & Jennifer Williams.

- I. **Guest: Sarah Hunter**
  - Will be attending in April instead of March.
- II. **New Senator: Dale Mauser**
  - Replaces Anton Hubl. Works in the Library & has been at WSU for 8 years.
- III. **CBIZ**
  - President Bardo would like to start an Advisory group to attend monthly meetings with the CBIZ representatives to try to prevent rumors from occurring. The Senate agreed that the same people who started the consultations would be the best representatives to continue. More information will be forthcoming regarding the difference between this group & the original stakeholders meetings.
  - Town Hall Meetings: Any feedback? No feedback from constituents.
- IV. **KPERS Bond Strategy**
  - Andy Schlapp indicated that until the budgets are approved, it's difficult to say what it means. There's no indication that the tiers will be changing. Per Andy Schlapp, if a change were to take place in the future, it would be the addition of tiers rather than a reduction in benefits to current tiers. It's too early in the process to know the specifics & if it will mean a cut in benefits. Speculation about how this will work just creates concern. It's best to wait for more information.
- V. **USSC Update**
  - The committee decided to not go to the capital. It was recommended that we don't go by the university Presidents regarding KPERS.
  - SB 161: Leave Benefits bill. It has been presented to the Legislature. More information will be coming shortly.
- VI. **Committee Reports**
  - **Alternative Service Committee** (Randy Sessions, Stacy Salters, Renea Goforth, Angie Linder, Brenda Achey) – met & discussed the need to follow up with the former ASC chairs & ask them to review the policies online to see if everything has been updated as recommended, Brenda Achey will follow up with Matthew Johnston regarding proposed changes to the grievance handbook, talk with HR regarding the creation of a handbook (or employee reference manual), & look into creating a USS channel on MyWSU to find general information.
  - **Community Service** (Darryl Carrington, Renea Goforth, Connie Wells) – nothing new.
  - **Constitution** (Renea Goforth, Stacy Salters, Randy Sessions) – had a quick meeting to review the constitution. There are places where the wording needs to change from classified to university support staff. There are places where the wording is confusion & needs some clarification. There needs to be more discussion regarding the purpose of the Executive Council & if the members of the Council need to be changed to be easier to maintain & similar to other Board Executive Committees. Perhaps the Senate should vote one Senator per EEO into the Executive Council along with the officers of the Senate. Consider adding a treasurer position to handle the money & travel. A Constitutional change will need a vote of the university support staff. A document detailing these & other recommendations will be made available to the Senate.

- **Elections** (Ali Levine, Shelly Kellogg) – Nominations will begin March 16 online. Nominees will need to respond yes or no by April 3. Voting begins April 6 & ends April 17. This is a 2 step process. HR will help anyone who needs help with nominations & voting.
- **Heskett Center Board** (Shirley Lewis) – no updates
- **Library Appeals** (Shelly Kellogg, Amy McClintock) – no updates
- **Newsletter** (Sheryl McKelvey, Robbie Norton) – in process. Discussing issue of welcoming new employees by name in the next newsletter. It may be a better idea to just indicate how many are new rather than list names.
- **Ombudsperson** (Sheryl McKelvey, Johny Buchanan-Spachek and Matt Houston) – no updates. Is the committee needed, especially if a new university position is created in 2016? Motion to dissolve this committee by Johny Buchanan-Spachek. Motion seconded by Randy Sessions. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
- **RSC Board** (Mike Hinkle) – no updates
- **Shocker Pride** (Connie Wells, Robbie Norton) – reviewed nominations for Presidents Award & will be notifying the recipients. Some Senators would like to investigate the feasibility of changing the requirements for this award & marketing it better in order to get more response from the university.
- **Shocker Scholarship** (Connie Basquez, Johny Buchanan-Spachek, Carrie Wyatt) – has created an email & will be creating social media sites. Is a Social Media Committee needed? The scholarship committee will volunteer to be on the social media committee. Motion to form the Social Media Committee by Connie Basquez. Motion seconded Johny Buchanan-Spachek. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed. Social Media Committee will be Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn.
- **Traffic Appeals** (Bryan Carter, Randy Sessions, Robbie Norton) – questions were raised regarding origination of the fine increase listed in the previous months minutes. Randy Sessions said he would find out the specifics. Per a meeting between President Bardo & Ali Levine, the President indicated that he would send a representative to attend the meeting.
- **Tuition** (Connie Basquez, Bryan Carter, Matt Houston) – no updates from the committee. There was a discussion about the increase of tuition in 2016 will be due to a 2% raise for faculty & staff. This may be a possibility but it's nothing that has been approved by the university.
- **Welcoming** (Angie Linder, Connie Wells, Micah Thompson) – Micah Thompson is working on getting pictures. Still working on an event.
- **Wellness** (Micah Thompson, Walter Mayne, Danielle Gabor) – add Walter Mayne & Danielle Gabor

## VII. As May Arise

- Approve February meeting minutes
  - Christina Clarkson & Jennifer Williams should be moved to excused absent
  - Correction to first bullet of the traffic appeals update: *During a meeting with President Bardo, Ali Levine indicated that Dr. Bardo will send a representative to attend.* However, Senators from the last meeting did not see any additional representation. Follow-up is needed to determine when this representative will be attending.
  - Correction to the second bullet of the traffic appeals update: Traffic policy committee is increasing fines to be equal to state standards. *Some fines will sustain a significant increase.* Read the policy when it released.
  - Motion to approve the minutes with the changes by Shelly Kellogg. Motion seconded by Randy Sessions. All in favor, none opposed.
- Stacy Salters attended a meeting by Matthew Conklin to renovate Grace Memorial Chapel into a flexible faith neutral space by removing the pews, add carpet & chairs. His proposal has been turned down. If you would like to offer support, please contact Matthew Conklin.
- Holiday closedown has been approved by the President for December 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 & 31. December 24, 25 & January 1 are holidays.
- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Micah Thompson. Motion seconded by Robbie Norton. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed & meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacy Salters