

**UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING**  
**Hickory/Hackberry Room, Morris University Center**  
**Zoom Meeting ID 945 0315 5890**  
**August 4, 2022 – 9:00am**  
**Approved Minutes**

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:00am on Thursday, August 4, 2022 by President Keith Becherer.

**Present:** Keith Becherer, Kelly Jo Hendricks, Cindy Cobetto, Angie White, Denyse Anderson, Mike Hamil, Carolyn Jason, Jan Caban, Sara Colvin, Anthony Fearon, Anne Frosh, Jackie Hayes, Doug James, Kim Kilgore, John Milcic, Michael Tadlock (ex officio)

**Excused:** Darryl Cherry

**Absent:** John Caupert, Shane Kessinger, Jared Loyd, Dusty Rhodes, Nicole Robinson, Collin Van Meter

**Guests:** Monica Brooks, Jessica McCawley, Jeanette Parmenter, Stephanie Stookey, Deb Talbot

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes for the June 2, 2022 meeting were approved as written.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**REPORTS:**

President Keith Becherer – was able to attend commencement on June 4 for SDM; congrats to all students who graduated. Also attended June 8 Employee Appreciation Day on the Alton campus. Congrats to Seth Walker, the new Vice Chancellor for University Advancement. Attended the budget presentation on June 21; big impact is the SPA process. Staff Senate retreat in July went well. Attended the commencement overview on July 18; made a formal request for staff to be included in the processional. Attended BOT meeting in July; there was a presentation on the campus climate survey; Chair Gilbert will bring forward a salary adjustment plan for the SIU System at the next meeting.

President Elect Kelly Jo Hendricks – Thank you everyone who attended the retreat, and thanks to John and Jackie for hosting us at NCERC.

Representative Mike Hamil – following the BOT meeting in July, we have been getting complaints from staff that they were unhappy the SIU System President and SIUC Chancellor are getting incentive raises, and the SIU System President and both the SIUE and SIUC Chancellors are getting housing stipends.

HR Director Search (Kim Kilgore) – The HR Director job description has been posted. The search committee is large, consisting of several constituent groups. Kathryn Bentley is chairing the search. Kim will share the search committee names to Keith to make sure all constituent groups are represented.

SDM Dean Search (Anne Frosh) – The SDM Dean search committee met once. The majority of the committee is the same as it was the first time the position was posted, including the same co-chairs, Cornell Thomas and Bret Gruender (even though Cornell recently retired).

Executive Director of University Marketing and Communications (Kelly Jo Hendricks/Sara Colvin) – The deadline for applications was on July 31. The minimum criteria subcommittee has narrowed the

candidate pool. The entire committee will look at the remaining applicants next week. Staff Senate will be invited to attend meetings with the finalists; however, the Chancellor has requested Senators RSVP so that candidates know who will be in each meeting.

There were no other reports.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

There were no action items.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Becherer presented three people who submitted candidacy forms to fill Staff Senate vacancies: Kim Kilgore (CSOR), John Milcic (CSNP), and Sara Colvin (ASNR). Each of the candidates introduced themselves, and were approved unanimously.

Angie White was nominated to continue service as Staff Senate Secretary; Cindy Cobetto was nominated to continue service as Staff Senate Treasurer. They were both approved unanimously. Denyse Anderson (CSNP), Mike Hamil (CSOR), Darryl Cherry (ASRP), and Carolyn Jason (ASNR) were each nominated to continue service as Constituency Representatives. They were all approved unanimously.

Becherer discussed a request from Lindy Wagner for someone from Staff Senate to be appointed to the Bias Incident Response Team (BIRT). The current BIRT membership is heavy on faculty or administrative/professional staff appointments, so we'd like to balance out with a Civil Service employee, if possible. If anyone is interested in this role, please reach out to Keith Becherer.

The Staff Senate Scholarship Committee will meet next week to award Summer and Fall 2022 recipients.

Becherer discussed the results and feedback on the SIU System Climate Survey; he will reach out to Vice President Sheila Caldwell to get a copy of the Survey for distribution.

Becherer discussed the Strategic Position Alignment (SPA) Process outlined in the Chancellor's budget presentation. There is some frustration among departments that once a request is made, they don't hear if it is approved or denied.

Becherer continued the discussion from the Staff Senate Retreat regarding FY23 Staff Senate Goals, as requested by Chancellor Minor. This will be a recurring topic for discussion at the next Staff Senate meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was a discussion about last month's Staff Senate Retreat. The feedback has been positive. Next time, we will have to allot more time for discussion.

The feedback on the Understanding Your Benefits presentation was positive, although there were some who wished the event would have been available in-person and virtual (instead of only in-person). These HR presentations should be encouraged to occur on all three campuses more often.

Becherer met with the Budget Consultant, Dana Hoyt, along with the other constituency groups. The feedback from her was good. We should expect a new budget model regarding how funds are allocated, and an opportunity for some consolidation of units.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next SIU Board of Trustees meeting will be at the Alton campus on September 15, 2022. The general meeting should start around 10 am. Please attend if your schedule allows.

At a press conference yesterday attended by Chancellor Minor, SIU System President Mahony, and Illinois State Representative Katie Stuart, it was announced that the SIUE East St. Louis Higher Education Campus has been renamed the Wyvetter H. Younge Higher Education Campus.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Provost Denise Cobb will present on the SIUE Strategic Plan at next month's Staff Senate meeting. Michael Tadlock is working to schedule presentations to Staff Senate this fall from the other Vice Chancellors.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 10:44 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock, University Governance