

UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING
Mississippi/Illinois Room, Morris University Center
Zoom Meeting ID 945 0315 5890
December 8, 2022 – 9:00am
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:05 am on Thursday, December 8, 2022 by President Keith Becherer.

Present: Keith Becherer, Kelly Jo Hendricks, Cindy Cobetto, Angie White, Denyse Anderson, Darryl Cherry, Carolyn Jason, Jan Caban, Sara Colvin, Anthony Fearon, Anne Frosh, Jackie Hayes, Doug James, Shane Kessinger, Kim Kilgore, Dusty Rhodes, Nicole Robinson, Collin Van Meter, Michael Tadlock (ex officio)

Absent: Jared Loyd, John Milcic

Excused: Mike Hamil, John Caupert, Collin Van Meter

Guests: Jennifer Cottingham, Christopher McCawley, Jessica McCawley, Michelle Nickerson, Jen Oates-Blair, Jeanette Parmenter, Brandon Stookey, Stephanie Stookey, Deb Talbot

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the November 3, 2022 meeting was approved as written.

REPORTS:

President Keith Becherer – Attended UPBC on 11/4; Enrollment Management provided a presentation, detailing enrollment goals. Attended BOT meeting in Carbondale 12/1 and presented briefly regarding Dave Heth's leadership training program. The SIU Trustees continued the 50/50 split for new monies from state appropriation. The mandatory student health insurance proposal passed. Will participate in commencement activities next year. Reminder to everyone that the annual employee holiday reception will be on December 19, from 2 pm until 5 pm.

President-Elect Kelly Jo Hendricks – Will request a new staff listing from HR, as this listing we received isn't accurate or up-to-date. John Milcic was named Foreman of Facilities Management, but will need to step down from Staff Senate.

Secretary Angie White – sent out 18 packets for new employees in November.

There were no other executive reports.

SDM Dean Search – completed on-campus interviews and had our last search committee meeting. Waiting on the final report and decision from Chancellor/Provost.

There were no other reports.

ACTION ITEMS:

There were no action items.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The SIU System Climate Survey results were discussed. It's disheartening to hear some of the testimonies from faculty, staff and students who don't feel valued. It's important to keep these conversations in the forefront. Inviting the new HR Director to Staff Senate would be a good idea to get their vision on what are his priorities, and what will he do to deal with some of the disenchanting people on campus. Our onboarding process can be better.

The Budget Consultant Final Report was discussed. Some questioned how much was the budget consultant. Some of the talk about academic reorganization and prioritization sounds interesting. It appears that though the SPA process is laborious, it seems to help the budget deficit.

NEW BUSINESS:

A Staff Senate survey went out to most of the constituency groups; other constituency heads will distribute the surveys as well. We received 99 responses so far; the information gathered so far has been useful. People would like more communication regarding Staff Senate, either a quarterly newsletter or annual report. There are also some constituents who don't know who their constituent heads are.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commencement Exercises to be held December 16th and 17th.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

New HR Director Carl Chambers and new Marketing and Communications Executive Director Kedra Tolson should be invited to a Staff Senate meeting in the Spring.

Michael will look at dates we can hold Staff Senate at the Alton and East St. Louis campuses.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There have been complaints from people on campus that there was no early dismissal (or even a notice) the day before Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock, University Governance