

UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING
Mississippi/Illinois Room, Morris University Center
Zoom Meeting ID 945 0315 5890
January 11, 2024 – 9:00am
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:01 am on Thursday, January 11, 2024, by President Kelly Jo Hendricks.

Present: Kelly Jo Hendricks (President), Doug James (President-Elect), Keith Becherer (Past President), Angie White (Secretary), Cindy Cobetto (Treasurer), Andrey Ayers (ASRP Constituency Rep), Steven Green (CSOR Constituency Rep), Maria Ferrari, Amie Flatt, Mike Hamil, Shane Kessinger, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Tiana Montgomery, Trish Scheibal, Tim Staples, Collin Van Meter, Michael Tadlock-Jackson (ex officio)

Absent: Sara Colvin (ASNR Constituency Rep), Dusty Rhodes,

Guests: Jennifer Albat, Maureen Bell-Werner, Xanthe Emerick, Erica Frost, Cheryl Jordan, Patricia Merritt, Jessica McCawley, Kim Monke, Lisa Mosley, Jeanette Parmenter, Jill Smucker, Brandon Stookey, Deb Talbot, Linda Zimmerman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the December 7, 2023 meeting was approved as written.

NOMINATION:

There is a Senator vacancy for Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing (2025). Cheryl Jordan, Office Administrator in Academic Advising, gave a brief introduction which included her interest in serving on University Staff Senate. Jordan's candidacy was approved by acclamation.

There are still open Senator vacancies, and we also need Constituency Reps for Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing and Administrative Staff Non-Represented. Kelly Jo will reach out to people to see if they are interested serving in this role.

REPORTS:

President Kelly Jo Henricks – Attended December BOT meeting in Carbondale. Next BOT meeting is on SIUE campus next month, February 8. Communicated with folks on search committees. Thanks to those who attended the FMLA open forum in December. Attended December Commencement ceremonies. Attended holiday party and constituency meeting with Chancellor. Will send out targeted emails to cover vacancies—hopefully today. Chancellor Minor has requested to attend the February Staff Senate Executive Board meeting (February 15).

Past President Keith Becherer – Served on Benefits Manager position for HR; submitted feedback to HR before holiday break. Representative Amy Elik was on campus recently. Attended retirement reception for Ken Holbert (SDM). Thanks to those who attended FMLA panel.

President-Elect Doug James – Thanks to those who serve on Staff Senate. Will look at new ideas regarding recruiting new members.

There were no other executive reports.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs search – Eric Ruckh is still the search committee Chair. Search firm is working with potential candidates.

School of Business Dean search – there are five candidates coming to campus within the next month.

Chief of Police search – the new Chief of Police, David Goodwin, started on December 15.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management search – job posting is nearly complete; will post soon.

Director of EOA/Title IX – four finalists on campus this and next week.

Vice Chancellor for University Advancement – the new VCUA, Connie Collins, will start on January 22, 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Open Senator Positions – there are still several open senator positions in the following categories:

- Civil Service Open Range – 3 positions (2025/2027- 2)
- Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing – 1 position (2025)
- Alton Campus Senator (ALT CSNP/REP) – 1 position (2025)
- Alton School of Dental Medicine – 1 position

Please consider sending out targeted emails to those in these constituent groups.

Final Vote on USS Resolution in Support of Finalized Union Contracts for Staff – we need to update the deadline for a response, should be February 29, 2024. Motion passed unanimously. Kelly Jo will send copies to BOT members, staff union representatives, other constituency representatives, Chancellor's Council, and state representatives.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Scholarship Allocation – to continue with the allocation of \$2,500 as the amount for the Spring Scholarship, a vote is required. The motion passed unanimously.

Spring Guests Ideas – Kelly Jo will send invitations to people so they can present at Staff Senate this Spring. Guest ideas include: David Goodwin, new Chief of Police; Connie Collins, new Vice Chancellor for University Advancement; Carl Chambers, HR Director, Bill Retzlaff/Craig Holan, updates related to facilities; interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Angie Cooksy/new Registrar Pat Sears.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Committee Relations – Jack Meyer will be contacted regarding social security webinar, tentative for March 13. Collin Van Meter will be leaving SIUE by the end of next week. Should we keep this committee?

Scholarship – no update.

Fundraising – we are down to two committee members.

Diversity Updates – please sign up for next week's MLK luncheon if you are interested.

Policy Review – will meet with Carl Chambers on 1/22 at 1 pm; you are free to attend if your schedule permits. Topics of discussion: recent departures in HR, questions regarding the paid leave email that went out 12/22/23, updates regarding SPA, and clarification on FMLA paperwork.

Staff Wellness – parental leave task force is meeting tomorrow. Reminder about FMLA panel recording on Staff Senate website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

March Staff Senate meeting will be on East St. Louis campus, March 7.

February BOT meeting, February 8, SIUE campus.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Keep an eye out for announcements regarding SUAA. Save the date for 2/27, as new Executive Director of SUAA will meet on our campus; State Senator Erica Harriss will attend as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock-Jackson, University Governance