

UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING
Mississippi/Illinois Room, Morris University Center
Zoom Meeting ID 945 0315 5890
February 1, 2024 – 9:00am
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:00 am on Thursday, February 1, 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), Sara Colvin (ASNR Constituency Rep), Steven Green (CSOR Constituency Rep), Maria Ferrari, Amie Flatt, Mike Hamil, Cheryl Jordan, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Tiana Montgomery, Dusty Rhodes, Trish Scheibal, Tim Staples, Michael Tadlock-Jackson (ex officio)

Absent: Shane Kessinger

Guests: Maureen Bell-Werner, Amy Bodensstab, Eddie Caumiant, Jennifer Cottingham, Kristen Durnan, Linda Eilerman, Ben Kaminski, Heather Knapp, Patricia Merritt, Jessica McCawley, Christy McDougal, Jeanette Parmenter, Jill Smucker, Brandon Stookey, Deb Talbot, Kat Wright, Mary Zabriskie

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the January 11, 2024, meeting was approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKER:

David Goodwin, new Chief of Police, spoke to Staff Senate. He is here after 25 years at Washington University, and before that he served in the Army Reserve for 34 years. David wants to bring different people together to solve problems. He just completed his first month and a half at SIUE and is still understanding the nuances of how we do things. He would like to standardize some of our training, such as active shooter.

NOMINATION:

There is a Senator vacancy for Civil Service Open Range (2027). Christy McDougal, Manager of MUC Business Affairs, gave a brief introduction which included her interest in serving on University Staff Senate. Christy's application was approved by acclamation.

There is a Senator vacancy for Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing (2027), with two applicants. Linda Eilerman, Office Manager in Student Government, and Ben Kaminski, Office Manager in Equal Opportunity, Access, & Title IX Coordination, gave brief introductions which included their interest in serving on University Staff Senate. After a vote, Ben Kaminski was voted to serve on University Staff Senate.

There is a Senator vacancy for the Alton Campus, Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing (2027). Kat Wright, Dental Clinic Clerk II, gave a brief introduction which included her interest in serving on University Staff Senate. Kat's application was approved by acclamation.

REPORTS:

President Kelly Jo Hendricks – Finalized and distributed resolution to BOT, Chancellor's Council, all SIUE union presidents, constituency heads, ALESTLE, and local legislators; will also send a copy to Carl Chambers.

Past President Keith Becherer – Attended welcome week on Alton campus. Attended Alumni Association event on 1/27. New Benefits Manager will begin soon.

President-Elect Doug James – Thanks to those who serve on Staff Senate. Thanks to Carl Chambers for resuming New Employee Orientation.

Treasurer Cindy Cobetto – brought copies of financial reports.

There were no other executive reports.

School of Business Dean search – we have had five candidates on campus since January 6, with the last person here yesterday. The search committee will meet next week to work on pros and cons list for the Provost.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management search – job posting expires 2/12.

Director of EOA/Title IX – four candidates were invited to campus; one dropped out. An offer has been made to the chosen candidate.

Dean for the Library and Information Services – initial meeting was January 14; working on search firm contract.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

- Civil Service Open Range – 2 positions (2025/2027- 2)
- Administrative Staff Represented (2027)
- Administrative Staff Non-Represented (2025)

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring guests – Connie Collins will be our guest for April, and an invitation has been sent to Bill Retzlaff and Craig Holan for May.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Public Relations – Doug gave an update on what the process is to pause a committee.

Scholarship – briefly discussed spring selection process/timeline.

Fundraising – we are down to two committee members.

Diversity Updates – Chair of the committee left SIUE. No update.

Policy Review – see notes from Kelly Jo regarding meeting with Carl Chambers.

Staff Wellness – no update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

March Staff Senate meeting will be on East St. Louis campus, March 7. If someone needs a ride from Edwardsville, let Kelly Jo know.

February BOT meeting, February 8, SIUE campus.

SUAA happy hour – 2/8.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eddie Caumiant, AFSCME Council 31: Thank you for the unanimous support for union resolution. It's unusual—but great—to see the University come together to bring this issue to the forefront for Administration. There is strength in solidarity. In addition to BOT next Thursday, the Chancellor is

hosting a Meet and Greet Thursday evening in Missouri, please see the flyer for more information. If you can, please attend the Board of Trustees meeting next week to support AFSCME.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock-Jackson, University Governance