

Staff Association Minutes

November 13, 2019 at 3:00 pm

Blum Union, 220

Senators Present: René Hill, Marissa Steimel, Michelle Jacobs, Jean Foster, Jessica Frogge, Derek Evans, Andrea Keller, Lisa May, Claudia Baer, Louise Mills, Barb Harris, Kathy Gammon, Hawley Rumpf

Senators Absent: Kathy Kelly, Jessica Poet, Nicki Robertson

Staff Present: Fred Nesslage, Trenny Wilson, Minerva Correa Torres, Adam McGowan, Hannah Piechowski, Michelle Wolfe, Mike Cadden, Nathan Roberts, Josh Maples, Alex Owens, Aubry Carpenter, Teresa Crist, Sarah Cravens, Zach Stark, Blake Lockmiller

Invited Guests: President Matthew Wilson, Dr. Douglas Davenport

President Wilson - Report:

- Wilson has been out and about in the community and surrounding area high schools. His goal is to be in 25-30 high schools this semester.
- Working with admissions so that every employee is an educator.
- Thanks for making it a great semester for our students. He knows staff is working hard for our students
- Thank you for coming to the town hall meetings. The input was appreciated.
- The new initiatives are rolling out. All seem to be supported by the community. Gold Fridays, esports, and guaranteed scholarships.
- There is an A+ scholarship in the state that is supported for community colleges. MWSU had a form of the A+++ program. This was not sustainable by discounting tuition as no money was coming from the state. The Guarantee Scholarship will replace that program. Additionally, there is an A+ type of program that will work with the Center for Service. Current students are already locked in and will not lose current scholarships. The Guarantee Scholarship will start fall 2020.

Dr. Davenport – Report:

- Academic restructure will be saving \$400,000 per year. The restructure was needed in order to work on the university deficit.
- Western Institute was eliminated. By doing so, a tremendous amount of funds were saved.
- Announcement will be made soon on who the AVP of Academic Affairs will be.
- Thank you to those who attended Coffee with the Provost.
- Please double check for truth before passing on rumors.

Old Business

- Approval of October minutes – No changes to the minutes. Minutes approved.

Committee Reports

- Salary & Fringe – No Report
- Constitution & Bylaws – Under Other Business
- Welcoming – No Report
- Election – No Report
- Professional Development – Have not met. However, budget has not been released and it is believed that it will be significantly less than prior years. Because of this, it will not let us have the funds for the Professional Development we had discussed in previous meetings (using funds for webinars, utilizing the funds for more than one person at a time, etc.). At this time, Professional Development funds will be put on hold until we find out more information. We have received the funds from the Foundation.
- Special Events – December 16th scheduled for the Staff Retreat. Donations will be collected for the Campus Cupboard.
- Advantage – Accepting applications for Adopting a Griffon. Boxes will be set up across campus for donations. We will meet next week to look at applications. There are three so far.

President's Report – Kathy Kelly is out on Jury Duty, Marissa Steimel gave the report.

- C3 Committee update – C3, per Sara Freemyer, the BOG, in executive session on October 24, 2019, suspended the C3 classification committee effective immediately. Classifications will be determined between HR, the hiring supervisor and the appropriate VP.
- Sybil Hillyard has accepted a new position off campus. Betsy Wright resigned due to her new position being exempt. That has left two openings on Senate for non-exempt senators. Both Michelle Jacobs in Recreation Services and Jean Foster in Career Development have accepted their seats on Senate. They were voted on by the association and next in line. A senate vote was not needed.
- Squash rumors. This isn't the time to be believing everything you hear. Confirm what you are hearing.

First Vice President's Report

- Budget Report – No funds have been spent.
- Budget Update – Funds have not been released by the university at this time.

Faculty Liaison Reports

- Mike Cadden – No Report

Other Business/Open Discussion/Announcements

- Question from staff: What is the reporting process for reclassification? There was not an answer. Kathy Kelly will contact Sara Freemyer and report back.

- Constitution & Bylaws - Review suggested changes
 - Remove Grievance Committee
 - Removing spelling errors
 - Removing rhetorical information
 - Making changes for easier understanding
 - Adding Preamble to the Constitution (will require a vote of all association members)
 - Bylaws – several bullet points that conflict
 - Changes will be sent out for review prior to next meeting
- Thank you to all of those who donated to United Way

Mark your calendars: Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at 3 pm in Blum 220.