

Staff Association Minutes

September 14th, 2022 at 3:00pm

PDR



Attendance: Amber Halstead, Melissa Stallbaumer, Jondenna Johnston (virtual), Jessica Frogge (virtual), Derek Evans, Emily Ludwig, Luke Theis, Aubry Carpenter, George Hudson, Luanne Haggard, Roberta Dias, Kasey Schmoie, Debbie Vaughn

Absent: Alana Tackett *excused*, Amanda Kimler *excused*

Invited Guests

- Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, President in Jefferson City
- Dr. Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Darrell Morrison
 - Budget
 - Freshmen class is up is encouraging, however our credit hour enrollments are down slightly which impacts the budget. They are reviewing how to adjust accordingly
 - Budget reductions? We don't have answers right now. We are looking at it and we will not be doing across the board cuts
 - Facilities
 - Blum roofing project is causing some unsavory smells, but it is for the betterment of the university.
 - Spratt - we are still working on the construction for the Communication suite
 - Murphy - Respiratory Therapy/other health sciences lab is nearly done.
 - Elevators out - Spratt Stadium and Kit Bond, but Popplewell is back on.
 - Please be patient with Physical Plant staff. There is a lot of things going on on campus, but also a "perfect storm" of illness and family concerns that has his staff all at one time.
 - Parking
 - If parking cost is the biggest concern/topic of discussion, we are doing pretty good.
 - \$5 increase in parking, Griffon Media will be doing a story on this.
 - Deferred maintenance money was put into resurfacing parking lots in the past year. Also resealed this past summer. The added fees this year will help maintain the work that has been done.
 - The fees at MWSU
 - Jonathan Turley - Convocation on Critical Issues on September 27th in Looney Arena
- Dr. Elise Hepworth, Vice Provost
 - Exciting and fast start to the semester
 - Freshmen class of roughly 617 freshmen is very engaged and enthusiastic
 - Jeff Hoyt new Director of Institutional Research
 - New Admin in the Academic Affairs Office
 - A lot of academic activity is happening on campus. The CTL had their first event on Friday on Trauma informed pedagogy- we encourage BOTH faculty and staff to attend. Next will be on Generation Z
 - Already starting to look to next year
- Dr. Melissa Mace, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
 - Thank you to everyone who helped get this year on the right track
 - Ditto to above, the Class of Enthusiasm is engaged and energetic

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- Recruitment team is out recruiting for 2023 and we are also looking to registration for the Spring
- Visit Kelly Commons on Friday the 16th at noon for a reading of the Consitution and cupcakes for Constitution Day
- Thank you to all of the offices participating in Family Day on September 24th.

Faculty Liaison Report

- Dr. Ed Taylor, Faculty Senate President (Faculty Liaison in place of Angela Haas)
 - Faculty senate is working on several issues that came up during a faculty town hall
 - While the Faculty and Staff Senate are independent groups, we want t prioritize working together. We work better together! Both groups are such an essential part of the university.

Previous Meeting Minutes Approval

Jessica Frogge motions to approve August minutes as read, Derek Evans seconds, motion passes unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Salary & Fringe
 - Chair: TBD
- Constitution & Bylaws
 - Chair: Derek Evans
 - Goal 1: Since a number of changes continue to be made at the administrative level that may make the structure of Staff Senate and some subcommittees redundant and/or unnecessary, our first big goal is simply to maintain an open line of communication with the rest of the staff and Staff Senate so we can be nimble and adjust the bylaws as necessary according to those changes.
 - Goal 2: A longer term goal is to revisit the discussion about and do further research into staff senate representation (i.e. how we determine the number of senators and how different groups are represented).
- Welcoming
 - Chair: Kasey Schmoe
 - Goal 1: The welcome committee will make it a priority to encourage all new employees to attend Staff Association meetings and will deliver the welcome gifts to the appropriate senators for delivery.
 - Goal 2: The Welcome Committee will hold a meet and greet once a semester for new employees, current Senators, and the Welcoming Committee.
- Election
 - Chair: Melissa Stallbaumer
 - Goal 1: Continue to increase nominations and number of employees interested in running for Staff Senate.
 - Goal 2: Find a new platform to effectively host elections for 2023 with elimination of Class Climate software.

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- Professional Development
 - Chair: Jondenna Johnston
 - Goal 1: Find out exactly what staff is looking for when it comes to professional development.
 - Goal 2: Meet with HR and CTL to determine if the committee overlaps or if the committee should forge its own.
- Employee Engagement
 - Chair: Emily Ludwig
 - Goal 1: Focus on smaller, more diverse events and engagement opportunities over major events to meet the needs of a variety of staff members.
 - Goal 2: Work to develop consistency in engagement opportunity offerings.
 - Goal 3: Look into opportunities to provide recognition and appreciation to staff members.
 - Homecoming - Office Door Decorating contest during Homecoming October 3rd - 8th along the theme "Blast from the Past." This will be by department, not personal entries.
- Care
 - Chair: Aubry Carpenter
 - Goal 1: Maintain Adopt-a-Griffon program.
 - Goal 2: Expand care through an effort to centralize a meal train coordination for Griffons in need.

Motioned to approve the chairs as read by Roberta Dias, seconded by Luanne Haggard, passed unanimously.

President's Report

- Notes on meeting with Administration in Dr. Kennedy's absence.
 - Institutional Committees
 - Timeline is on track for the search for the new Dean for the College of Business and Professional Studies
 - CTAC (Convergent Technology Alliance Center) Building - inaugural meeting
 - Discovery Center downtown - we are working closely with this process to incorporate MWSU into the efforts.

First Vice President's Report

- Alana Tackett is out today
- Alana is waiting on a constituent list from HR, but has been working with Welcoming Committee to ensure that all new employees are greeted by Staff Association

Other Business/Open Discussion/Announcements

- Leftover Griff Up Downtown shirts are available in the Office of Admissions
- The theme for homecoming is Blast from the Past - start thinking about decorations for your department/office!
- Family Day: Griffon 360 walk is still open to offices that want to participate
- 4-6 p.m. Tailgate for the Football Game



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Derek Evans motions to close the meeting, Aubry Carpenter seconds, the motion passes unanimously.

Mark your calendars: Next Staff Association meeting is October 12th at 3:00pm in Blum 220.