STAFF SENATE MEETING
MINUTES
December 8, 2014

Note to Senators: Please share the senate agenda, minutes, and any other enclosures with your colleagues prior to the scheduled meeting. Senate meetings are open to all staff. Agendas, minutes, and attendance rosters are available on the Staff Senate website at http://www.etsu.edu/stsenate/default.asp


FRIENDS OF THE SENATE: None Present

EXCUSED: David Collins, Carshonda Harris, Charvi Greer, David Robinson, David Smith and Amanda Worley

UNEXCUSED: Logan Burleson, Chris Loveday

I. Call to Order – President Josh Whitlock called the meeting to order at 2:34pm.

II. Approval of Minutes – Minutes were read and approved.

III. President’s Report – President Josh Whitlock

President Whitlock stated there will be a follow up meeting in mid-January, comprised from a group of volunteers as a result of the Dean’s Retreat that are looking at the Mission / Vision statements for ETSU. Please submit to President Whitlock any ideas and or suggestions you may have for the statement.

The university has purchased and is unveiling Adobe Digital Publishing Suite. It was presented at the December Senior Staff and will be used as a means to reduce paper on campus and paper publications and to reach more students.

TN Higher Education meeting took place on November 20th. The Master Plan for ETSU was set to be approved. In the plan was the Center for Fine Arts building. Two locations were discussed. One on the East side of campus in front of Dosset Hall and the other in the lot adjacent to the Millennium Centre. This building was approved as a part of the capital outlay projects for the upcoming year. The football stadium was also included in the plan. As shown in the press release it will be located in the parking lot between the Physical Plant and the CPA. As it looks, the ROTC climbing wall and the motor pool fleet will be displaced.

IV. Treasurer Report – Senator C. Massey reported the general account balance as $7,109.80; the Holiday Drive account balance as $950.73; and the balance of the Community Benevolence account holds a balance of $4,481.25.

V. Report on Standing Committees

- Committee on Committees – No report
- Committee on Elections – No report
Communications and Website – Senator Chamberlain reported that the committee had met and the current tasks among committee members is to keep the Staff Senate Facebook page up to date with activities, photos, and event information. Senator Marston will be assisting in this task.

Community Benevolence Committee (CBC) – No report.

Liaison Committee – Senator Hill reported that Bucky’s Food Pantry had 2 record months. 45 individuals were helping in October and 52 for November. To date, Bucky’s is giving out way more food than is being taken in. The CBC Committee donated leftover food from the Holiday drive to the pantry. If anyone would like to hold a food drive or donate, please see Senator Hill. The Veterans Committee had a very successful Veterans Day. They would like to thank everyone that came out to support the efforts.

Staff Awards – No report

Staff Concerns – No report

Staff Development and Evaluation – No report

Visibility – No report

VI. Report on Project Committees

Blood Drive – No report

Staff Picnic – No report

Holiday Drive – Senator Collins reported that the Holiday drive was a huge success. We were able to distribute 48 employee bags, 11 students and 64 community bags in addition to the 100 bags given to the Washington County Department of Education. The ETSU employees and students were also given $20.00 gift cards, the community was given $15.00 gift cards and the WCDE $10.00 gift cards. We raised $2,437.00 and Dr. Noland contributed $1,500.00 which gives us a total of $3,837.00 we were also able to help out 5 Christmas angels. The committee met following our regular meeting to discuss a shopping date and what agency to obtain the angels from. President Whitlock thanked everyone that helped with the drive.

Convocation – No report

Bylaws / Constitution – Senator Thompson stated that the committee had met following the suggested changes brought forth as a result of the previous meeting. Senator Thompson also handed out packets of the latest version of the bylaws and constitution for discussion in upcoming new business. He also explained the Pro Con debate which would follow discussion leading up to the vote.

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business - Senator Thompson made a motion to accept the amended articles as recommended the email prior to the meeting. After a brief discussion, Article III Intro and Section C were amended (see below.) Each vote was by voice, and each vote was not unanimous, but the two motions still passed with sufficient votes. It was then that Senator Murphy made a motion to table the remaining Articles until everyone had a chance to read over the amendment and vote with confidence. Everyone concurred. President Whitlock stated that we are not changing the Constitution by amending these votes. We are voting to present the Constitution changes to the staff body. The staff ultimately has to vote on whether the changes pass or not. Every Senator was encouraged to read the Bylaws and Constitution as is on the Staff Senate website. Senator Thompson will create a document in which the requested changes are laid out in red and will email to the Senate.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

The Staff Senate shall consist of forty three (43) elected members.

The Amended constitution reads:
ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

The Staff Senate shall consist of thirty (30) members elected from EEOC non-faculty categories, as well as thirteen (13) members elected by each degree-granting School/College.

Article III Section C, the following was added at the end of the section:

Elected senators changing to a different EEOC non-faculty category during their term will be allowed to complete their term under their elected EEOC non-faculty category.

IX. Announcements – Senator Jones stated there were still some coats available from Bucky’s Food Pantry if anyone knew a student or staff member that needed a coat. Please have them contact her.

X. Adjournment – There being no other business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:22p.m.

Submitted by Senator Kristi Smith

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Secretary