STAFF SENATE MEETING
MINUTES
March 9, 2015

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.


UNEXCUSED: David Robinson.

I. Call to Order – President Josh Whitlock called the meeting to order at 2:32pm.

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

III. President’s Report – President Josh Whitlock

- Senior staff has not met in several weeks, so there is no report there.
- The Q & A with Dr. Noland last month went well. He stated that we will have a 1.5% pool of money for the salary equity plan this year. He requested four staff nominations and given the quick pace for getting the equity plan to the TBR, President Whitlock requested that the Committee on Committees Chair, Senator Murphy, assist him in identifying staff to nominate. The nominees were Shea Renfroe (Advancement), Sherry Armitage (VA Campus), Karen Ervin (Public Health) and Stefanie Murphy (UAC). The committee that Dr. Noland wanted was to be 4 staff, 4 faculty and 4 administrators. They have about a month to do their work.
- Dr. Noland reiterated that ETSU was not part of the voluntary buyout at the state level. Nor will our longevity be affected by the state’s plan.
- Dr. Noland discussed plans to work with students on Culp Center expansions. If a dedicated fund for the expansion were to go through, expansions would be next to the amphitheater and provide more dining options and student use areas. The 2016-2017 academic year could be the earliest, if the fee gets approved. SGA is voting on the fee ($145 per semester) March 17th. If approved, this renovation could be completed as early as 2019.
  - Vice President-Finance & Administrator, David Collins stated that if approved design work could start as early as this Fall, and take about a year. Renovations would then start around Fall 2016 and hopefully be completed Fall 2017 or Spring 2018, depending on what’s new and what’s renovated. Preliminary plans would be to remove the ramp on the Amphitheatre side, place the addition there. Hopes are to increase food service opportunities, student lounge space, etc.
- Other discussion at the Q & A included how we are working to improve student services and retention. Student Affairs has a variety of methods to do so, including new software products to reduce student-administration pain points, first year student success courses, living & learning communities, and so forth.
- Student Government Association passed a resolution to change parking lot 21 (between parking garage and Lucille Clement) to an undesignated parking area due to lack of faculty parking there.
Faculty Senate raised concerns over this with Dr. Noland and he indicated that he is not planning to implement that change.

- Snow caused the cancellation of the Budget Committee meeting on February 17th. It has been rescheduled to next Wednesday, March 18 at 3pm in the Culp Auditorium. We were asked to try to be there to show support and ask questions.

IV. **Treasurer Report** – Senator Massey reported the general account balance as $7,109.80; the Holiday Drive account balance as $204.03; 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 – No report.
- Community Benevolence Committee (CBC) – No report.
- Liaison Committee – No report.
- Staff Awards – Senator Burton reported that nominations for Distinguished Staff Awards would be open for a period of two weeks beginning on April 6. Website changes have been noted and sent for updates to the web experts. Senator Burton also stated that due to a job change, she is in need of assistance with these nominations and the presentation aspect of the award. If you can assist, please let Senator Burton know.
- 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 – No report.
- Convocation – No report.
- Bylaws / Constitution – No report

VII. **Old Business** – None

VIII. **New Business** – None

IX. **Announcements**

- Senator Loveday stated how much she enjoyed reading the new Blue & Gold Digest publication and that Staff Senate had a great presence for the current issue.
- Senator Jones stated the Bucky’s Food Pantry is still in need of food donations. Food requests are up significantly and there is a steady flow of approximately 60 requests per month! There are various food drop off locations around campus, or if you have food that needs to be picked up, please contact Senator Jones & arrangements will be made. If you would like to help with a food drive, Senator K. Smith will be happy to email you appropriate signage. For up-to-date needs of the Pantry, visit their website at www.etsu.edu/foodpantry

X. **Adjournment** – There being no other business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Submitted by Senator Kristi Smith

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Secretary