



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES October 9, 2017

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>

PRESENT: Jake Allen, Lisa Bell, Julie Blevins, Lisa Booher, Tim Dills, Kristin France, Joy Fulkerson, Janet Green, John Lane, Christine Loveday, Candy Massey, Kathleen Moore, Stefanie Murphy, Gina Osborne, Dianne Pittarese, Evelyn Roach, Debra Roberson, Hazel Robinson, David Robinson, Carolyn Sliger, Kathy Smith, Kristi Smith, Michelle Sullivan, Rita Taylor, Libby Tipton, Gabe Tocci and Andrew Worley

FRIENDS OF THE SENATE: Vanessa Canter

EXCUSED: Yaritza Abdelnour, Gwen Bays, Ann Eargle, Cynthia Hill, Trish Lowe, Crystal Maupin, Jennifer Mayberry, Sandra Ritchie, Carolyn Sliger, Pat Van Zandt, Faith Vaughn and Josh Whitlock

UNEXCUSED: Yaritza Abdelnour, Johnathon Lykins and Ronald Mann

Resigned: Sean Hoyle

- **Call to Order** – President Murphy called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. in Meeting Room 6 of the D. P. Culp Center.
- **Guest speaker** – Amanda Marsh and Jennifer Hill spoke about the changes regarding the Accent Newsletter, Blue & Gold Digest and weekly email blasts. As you know, the new weekly email blast is a result of much complaining that there were too many emails coming out. These will be very brief topics with a link to click on for more information. Accent will be changing as well. Accomplishments will be listed rather than events. There is a possibility that the design of the newsletter will change as well as a possible name change, and distribution date. There is also talk of a special issues letting us know of staff deaths and retirements. Athletics will be moving to a weekly format as well, right now they are separate. Presidential Notepads will be moving to a biweekly format rather than a weekly distribution as well. If you have any suggestions or topics to feature, email Jennifer Hill at hill@etsu.edu.
- **Approval of Minutes** - Minutes for September were approved as made in a motion by Senators Dill & Booher. Everyone agreed.
- **President's Report** – President Murphy welcomed new Staff Senators Hazel Robinson, Public Health and Julie Blevins, Arts & Sciences.
- The Staff Senate was invited to an appreciation dinner at Shelbridge hosted by President and Mrs. Noland. Mrs. Noland said the flowers we sent were beautiful. Thank you Secretary Smith for your selections. The University Council met this morning, we will have a brief report by Vice President France; all of the information from that meeting will be included on the University Council website. Please be reminded that the Committee meetings and Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public, feel free to attend.
- University Council met this morning and VP France will have a full report.

- Friday, November 10th the next Board of Trustees meeting. The committee meetings and the actual board meeting is open to the public, if you would like to attend.
- At the Meeting of Presidents, Dr. Epps shared her recent experience; she informed us that while attending the Tennessee State-Wide Faculty meeting that ETSU was one of the only that had an active Staff Senate. We are fortunate to be the campus voice for staff since many of our counterparts do not have the representation we do. One of the “take-aways” from that meeting for faculty was “Focus on what no one else will fight for: I think that is something that we all need to be aware of and concentrate on.
- Tuesday, November 28th we will have our joint Q & A session with Dr. Noland in the Culp Center Auditorium. This is a joint effort with SGA, Faculty Senate and Staff Senate. Invitations will be sent out campus wide. This is going to be an update to the State of the University address he gave earlier, but if there are questions you have for Dr. Noland, please send them to Stefanie so they can be included in the program.
- The Staff Senate did have a presence in Homecoming this year through participating various events and parade. All those that came out seemed to have a phenomenal time. Next year we might consider entering the Staff Senate door in the decorating contest. I would like to commend Senator Fulkerson for her organization and ability to get the parade in line and getting started. Senator Fulkerson was also recognized for her swift and calm actions to evacuate people when those attending the Saturday evening event received a credible that of violence. Many thanks to Senator Mayberry for her role in avoiding a chaotic situation.
- Dr. Noland closed out the UC meeting today with facts from Saturday night’s scare. He said the media was false. Campus Security was made aware at 10:04 p.m. that a threat of someone inside the Dome or coming to the Dome would start shooting at 10:30 p.m. By 10:24 p.m., decisions were made and he received a call that the Dome had been evacuated. The comedian never made it to the stage. He would like for anyone with information to come forward. This is an ongoing investigation. There were several reports made and you can view those on the UC site once it is updated. The only other items that may affect staff are:
 - i. They will begin a national search for the new Director of Admissions to replace Brian Henley. They are also searching for an Interim Director at this time. Tom Taylor is a Consultant that will be reviewing the Admission processes and recruiting procedures as they prepare for the acquisition of CRM.
 - ii. Wilsie Bishop announced Angela Lewis new title as Vice Provost and Special Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives. She is taking the place of Mary Jordan who has since retired.
 - iii. There were several policy changes that were approved to go to the President as a next step in the approval process.
- The Executive Committee met with Human Resources Consultant, Stephanie Good had a good discussion and provided feedback.
- **University Council update** – Vice President France reported on the UC meeting from earlier today. She also encouraged everyone to visit the University Council website and view the minutes after they are posted.
 - Dr. Bill Flora, Faculty Senate Vice President was named Parliamentarian for University Council.
 - Dr. Noland gave a brief recap of the State of the University Address. He encouraged everyone to view the slides and video on the President’s Office webpage. He reiterated the 346 student enrollment increase since last year and approximately 75% retention rate. He also

mentioned the 3% salary enhancements (2% across the board increase + 1% equity increase) The equity increase will show on your October paycheck and be retroed to July.

- He then stressed that this in an implementation year for the strategic plan along with the new budget model. Several departments are asking about their budgets. The budgets provided through the new budget cannot be provided until the Board of Regents approves it. The next BOT meeting is on November 10th. He wanted to remind everyone that these meetings are open to the public. Dr. B.J. King will present the budget for the BOT approval at that time. Once approval is in place, they can begin deciding how to distribute the budget along with the excess revenues obtained by the additional 346 students. He stressed the importance rebuilding our reserves from approximately 3.6 million to 5 million. The reserves needs to be in place in case there are any cuts from the state. He then said the focus would be on the Category 4 items that were voted as important during the sprint ICU meeting. You can look those up on the minutes on their site. One item discussed was that they intend on awarding the colleges who experienced growth through their enrollment numbers.
- Dr. Noland was happy with Homecoming and received compliments that is was the most attended in years. He attended Mr. Jim Powell's 80th birthday party during the pep rally Friday night and was touched by the large number of chorale students who were privy to Mr. Powell's gracious scholarship funding.
- **Treasurer Report** – Senator Massey stated the balance in the Main Account is \$7,855.00. Stating we spent 45.00 for the Staff Senator of the Year award. There was no activity in the other two accounts; therefore, the balance in the CBC Account remains at \$3,881.25 and the Holiday Drive Account remains at \$681.84
- **Committee Reports**
 - **Parking Committee** – President Murphy Parking Committee update. There was a recommendation for an additional carpool lot on the west side of campus. The committee decided not to take action due to the decrease in carpool requests (there were 203 in 2008, a high of 467 in 2010 and 70 in 2017). The committee was informed there are approximately 44 post retirees on campus for a variety of reasons including teaching. They are required to purchase a parking decal, however, the committee voted to provide parking decals as a part of their retiree benefits package without purchase. The results of the Disability Survey were provided, there is a need for more spaces on the East side of campus especially the D.P. Culp Center. Would like to consider a consultant after the Culp renovations are complete.
 - **Picnic Committee** – Senator Massey stated the date for the 2017-2018 picnic had been set for May 11th in the Mini Dome.
 - **Liaison Committee** – Senator France stated as recommended in the September meeting, a resolution had been compiled regarding the loss of our ID Bucs discount with Sodexo. Senator France read the resolution, and also passed out copies for everyone to read. After a long discussion, Senator Kristi Smith called for a vote. Senator Robinson made the motion to accept the resolution and Senator Roberson seconded, the resolution passed. It will now be sent to Dr. Noland for consideration.
 - **Care Committee** – Senator Tipton spoke of our upcoming service day on Monday, October 16th in Gatlinburg. The current plan is to leave campus at 8:30, work all day and leave Gatlinburg at 3 pm. Wear long pants (not shorts) and dress in layers. Bring your lunch and bring water. Bring anything you might want to use: gloves, tools (hammers, drills, nail gun, portable air compressor, etc.) Things we might be doing: mulching, splitting wood (with a log splitter), framing, siding, trusses, building a disabled ramp, working on homes, etc. If you are skilled at using a chain saw and want to bring yours, please feel welcome to do so but only if you are SKILLED. They will provide us with leaders on these various projects and all they ask is for us to be good followers. Today, almost a year later this is still much work to be done. There are older people that need assistance clearing debris from their property, there are ramps to be built and mulch to be placed. If you or any of your colleagues would like to

go, please let Senator Tipton know by Friday, October 13th. At this time, we are only planning on taking the first 30 individuals that sign up. Senator Blevins stated the Geo Science department had two 15 passenger vans that we could use for this as well so that everyone would not have to drive. Senator Fulkerson also stated that she will be taking a group of students down on Friday and staying till Tuesday to assist with the clean-up.

- **Old Business** – None.
- **New Business** – Senator Moore ask if we could build on the Spring Fling this years along with SGA and have a day of service or a day of beautifying campus with events such as planting, mulching, etc. President Murphy thinks there is a campus committee for this and will check with Joe Smith for direction.
- **Announcements** – Senator Murphy mentioned that the Holiday Lights lighting will take place on November 13th from 5:45 – 6:30 at the Carillon.

X. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m., as per a motion by Senators Robinson and Smith.