

## Staff Senate Minutes

August 11, 2020 (1:00-2:30 pm)

Online Via Zoom

### Call to Order via ZOOM video conference

<https://wou-edu.zoom.us/j/94364721499?pwd=TSZzQ0hRL3B6aIBCWWpWMjE4NnhBdz09>

**In attendance:** Olivia Flores, Ryan Jennings, Colin Haines, Kathy Bolen, Bev West, Melissa Hinzman, Samantha Cameron, Rip Horsey, Michelle Gallagher, Beth Jones, Laura Tierney

**Absent:** Tony Manso

**Guests:** Lacey Davis, Niki Weight, Malissa Larson, Orlando Gaeta, Anna Vargas, Chris Solario, Kyler Dryer

### Start recording

- Reminder that meeting is being recorded, which includes all chats

### Approval of minutes

- Draft in Staff Senate Team Drive for July 14, 2020
  - Approved in Meeting 11-0-0

### Reports

- Budget update: Olivia
  - #20051 for scholarships has \$\$2,623
    - (without 2020-2021 scholarship deducted)
    - (\$95 payroll donation each month)
  - #42911 for Staff Senate has \$538.80
    - (\$20 payroll donation each month)

### New Business

- Campus cookbook fundraiser - vote to approve
  - Motion made to approve the cookbook fundraiser by Bev, seconded by Laura
    - Vote 11-0-0-- Motion passed
- Proposal/motion from SSEC to solicit/gather questions/feedback from staff across campus (with anonymous submissions allowed), send those submissions to the

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President's cabinet with a request for response, and publicize responses received.

- Discussion:
  - This would not be in place of a town hall, rather something that could happen if a townhall could not happen in a timely manner.
  - This would be a good way to allow for staff to ask questions without having their name tied to it.
- Motion made to vote on proposal as it is worded by Rip, seconded by Colin
  - 11-0-0- motion approved
- Proposal: use Sept 15 meeting for Q&A with president and VPs
  - This would be a good idea instead of a town hall because town hall's have a lot of moving components to them and it could be more difficult to schedule a town hall versus inviting the President/VP's/etc to our meeting.
  - Staff Senate needs to consider the bandwidth of using Zoom as the platform and ensuring that good video and sound happens even with the number of people that are attending.
    - Faculty senate had around 160 people at their last meeting and it seemed as though it was successful.
    - Another thought would be to have a webinar style of Zoom.
    - This needs to be captioned if in a webinar/zoom/townhall style
  - Sept 15th is a month away so would this be something that we would want to move forward
  - Motion was made by Rip to have Staff Senate request a Q & A session with the President and Vice Presidents before Fall Orientation
  - Seconded by Bev
    - Discussion:
      - The concern is that staff senate would not all be able to attend during a non-meeting time
    - An amendment was moved by Laura to change the wording to include "and/or" new wording will include: "President and/or Vice Presidents"
    - seconded by Bev

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- Approved 11-0-0
  - The newly amended motion reads as “Staff Senate requests a Q & A session with the President and/or Vice Presidents before Fall Orientation”
    - Approved: 11-0-0
- Discussion of other mechanisms for staff input into budget and other university decisions
  - August 21st is the next UBACC Meeting at 1 pm
  - Samantha is interested if a spot opens up on UBACC
  - There is a need for Staff Senate to have more input in the decision making. Even if there is just a way to voice the concerns of staff members that would be better than what is happening now.

### Unfinished Business

- Vote for Student Support committee member
  - A ballot will be coming out with the new student support committee member nominations

### Announcements

- Public Comments - Anything for the good of the order?
- The staff senate connection committee wants to publish the newsletter before the next meeting so they will email it to Ryan when it is complete and it will be posed for a vote.
- The next meeting will be september 15th and we have previously moved to create/revisit the 2020-2021 staff senate goals at this time.
- The next special sessions board meeting will be August 19th from 1pm-4pm

**Adjourn**

**2:30pm**

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## Supplemental Information

### Submission from website

“In regards to the Campus Budgetary issues including retrenchment and the more intense conversations starting to happen within the Faculty Senate, has there ever been any thought on establishing Non-Voting Members across the 2 different Senates? Basically, a Non-Voting but actual Staff Member in the Faculty Senate and vice Versa? It seems like there could be some strong benefits to have representation across the entities especially in situations the University is currently seeing.

I also have concerns/questions about the type of discussions the Town Hall with the upper administration. I know I have concerns about my own position but am scared to ask for fear of "rocking the boat" and finding myself without a job security. I know there are hard/uncomfortable questions and discussions that should be had but it doesn't feel like there is a safe space to have them. If the town hall is supposed to be a event to have those types of discussions, how exactly will it be moderated so the uncomfortable discussion can be had without a fear of repercussions?”

This item will be moved to the next meeting to be discussed

### Proposal

Use Sept 15 meeting for Q&A with president and VPs

- Should we host a Q&A / town hall for staff-specific questions and concerns
- Who should we invite - president, VPs, HR
- Should we solicit/gather questions from staff