

Staff Senate Regular Meeting

June 13, 2019

University House

**Members Present:** Raymond Anders, Denise Bignar, Alex Booth, Roy Cordell, Michela Cupello, EmmaLe Davis, Katie Doughty, Trisha DuCote, Rachel Gray, Cecilia Grossberger-Medina, Clayton Hamilton, Travis Hefley, Daniela Kidd, Jeremy McAtee, Elizabeth McKinley, Debbie McCloud, Cedar Middleton, Devyn Moore, Cindy Morley, Terri Phelan, Allen Porter, Michal Rau, Stephen Ritterbush, Susan Stiers, Elon Turner, Trish Watkins, Colleen Whitman, Carrie, Whitmer, Toya Williams

**Members Absent:** Ana Isabel Ayala Barker, Collin Reed Caley, Derrick Hartberger, Evan Hinchliffe, Autumn Parker, Bryon Speller, Quicny Ward

- I. The meeting was called to order by chair, Trish Watkins, at 9:31 AM
- II. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adopt the agenda
- III. Roll call – Trish Watkins
- IV. Officer Elections – Elizabeth McKinley
  - a. Candidates for Vice Chair are Cindy Morley and Denise Bignar
    - i. Both candidates addressed the Senate
    - ii. A vote was taken
      1. Cindy Morley is now Vice Chair
  - b. Candidates for Secretary are Michela Cupello and Elon Turner
    - i. Both candidates addressed the Senate
    - ii. A vote was taken
      1. Elon Turner is now Secretary
- V. Campus updates
  - a. Senate Updates – Trish Watkins
    - i. July 11<sup>th</sup> will be the Staff Senate retreat at the World Trade Center in Rogers
      1. Call to order for the Staff Senate retreat will be at 9 am
  - b. Parking and Transit – Jeremy McAtee
    - i. All construction projects are still on schedule
    - ii. Parking permit prices will increase by 2.8% July 1, 2019
      1. Pre-tax deductions for parking permits will no longer be allowed due to tax law passed in January 2018
  - c. Human Resources – Debbie McCloud
    - i. Salary increases are still on track
    - ii. Mandatory retirement increases are effective July 1, 2019
    - iii. Health plan premiums will increase effective July 1, 2019
    - iv. Working on getting evaluations completed
    - v. A survey for Workday readiness will be held in the future
    - vi. The staff climate survey is now closed
- VI. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve 05/09/2019 meeting minutes
- VII. Committee Reports

- a. Scholarship – Elon Turner
    - i. Had a good cycle for the Staff Senate Scholarship
      - 1. Open application period is now closed
      - 2. 15 applicants for Fall 2019
- VIII. Around the Senate
- a. Stephen Ritterbush
    - i. A study is being held by The Sustainability Consortium based out of Walton College of Business on circular economy impacting Washington, Benton, and Madison Counties
      - 1. Presentation is June 20, 2019
    - ii. Looking into a new recycling company
      - 1. FAMA's current recycling company, Smurfit Kappa, lost their regional plastic recycling facility in August 2018
        - a. Never notified University Facilities Management of the loss of service
        - b. Smurfit Kappa had sent a year's worth of recyclable materials from the University of Arkansas to landfill, excluding paper
        - c. Other regional companies that recycle plastics do exist, Marck Industries was named as an example as they currently do the recycling for the Sororities and Fraternities on campus
        - d. Further investigation would be undertaken by FAMA, who had been made aware of the situation
        - e. Changes to the recycling system on campus were also going to be in discussion
  - b. Trish Watkins – Senators that are leaving or retiring
    - i. Carrie Whitmer
    - ii. Jeremy McAtee
    - iii. Bryon Speller
    - iv. Susan Stiers
  - c. Staff picnic feedback
    - i. Lack of vegetarian options was disappointing
      - 1. Apologies have been made for the mistake
      - 2. A committee meeting will take place to ensure that vegetarian options will be available at all future Staff picnics
- IX. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn at 10:35 AM