

10-9-2018

Staff Senate, October 9, 2018

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Coastal Carolina University, "Staff Senate, October 9, 2018" (2018). *Staff Senate*. 1.
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Staff Senate

October 9, 2018
Meeting Minutes

Note: The remarks of the senators and others are summarized and not verbatim. The recording of this meeting is available in the Staff Senate Secretary's office.

PRESENT: Sandra Baldrige-Adrian; Shaun Bannon; Dwayne Beam; Carolyn Bender; Jean Bennett; Lisa Bernadyn; Allison Crandell; Michael Cruise; Amanda Darden; John Dooley; Cecilia Finch; Lynn Fox; Mark Garrison; Dawn Hitchcock; Marcus Holmes; Margaret Hurt; Judy Johns; Sharon McCants; Melanie McKeefery; Gregory Nance; Justin Poindexter; Wendy Singleton; Bryce Skipper; Alicia Stanley; Michele Varga; David Yancey; Travis Youngblood

SUBSTITUTIONS: none

ABSENT: none

David Yancey explained the special order of the day since this was our first meeting.

PRESIDENT, PROVOST, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

President DeCenzo:

- Not present at this meeting, out of town.

Provost Byington:

- The Provost explained what he will do at each meeting, he will give an update of where the university is currently, explain what concerns we have, and open for questions.
- Dr. Byington said there was 0% growth this year and a decrease of 2.5% in freshman enrollment from last year. Undergraduate enrollment was looking good, but after Hurricane Florence 150 students withdrew. We now have a 1% overall reduction from last year in enrollment. He said freshman retention is improving, it is currently at 68.8% but should be at 75%.
- At the General Faculty meeting in the spring, Dr. Byington will be making a budget presentation. Staff will be invited to learn about the budget and how the university operates.

Dr. Atiya Stokes-Brown, Assistant VP for Diversity and Inclusion:

- Dr. Stokes-Brown gave a presentation explaining the purpose and function of her office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- David Yancey explained about the 3 standing committees that we currently have and that all senators are expected to sit on one committee. These three are not the only committees that we can have, others may be added as a need arises.

Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

- The floor was opened for suggestions on how to select membership for these committees.
- Gregory Nance suggested we allow senators to select which committee they want to be on.
- Judy Johns asked if the committees will be split evenly among senators. David explained that there are 23 senators and 3 committees, there will be either 7 or 8 on each committee.
- David suggested that senators send Wendy Singleton their 1st and 2nd choice and assignments will be finalized at our next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Procedurally, how do we communicate with each other? Do we want to pattern ourselves after Faculty Senate?
 - a. A motion was made that we set up a web page similar to the Faculty Senate web page. The motion was made by Dawn Hitchcock and seconded by Gregory Nance. **The motion passed with 27 in favor, 0 not in favor, 0 abstain.**
2. A representative is needed to sit on the Faculty Staff Benevolence Fund Committee. Jean Bennett volunteered. Dawn Hitchcock made a motion to accept and Greg Nance seconded the motion. **The motion passed with 27 in favor, 0 not in favor, 0 abstain.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Melanie McKeffery asked if we will have a representative that will attend the Faculty Senate meetings; Allison Crandell asked if a Faculty Senate member will be invited to Staff Senate meetings. This may be something the Communication Committee will work on.
- We will look at any outstanding business left over from the Staff Advisory Council at our next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.