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Staff Senate, May 11, 2021

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Staff Senate

May 11, 2021
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: Sandy Baldrige-Adrian; Matthew Barnes; Jean Bennett; April Betsch; Roger Brown; Alli Crandell; John Dooly; Mark Garrison; Judy Johns; David Klauder; Michelle Lewis; Ebony McCray; Melanie McKeefery; Kelly Moore; Sean Pierce; Justin Poindexter; Wendy Singleton; David Speiser; Michele Varga; David Yancey; Travis Youngblood; Bobbi Yurkin; Sharlene Zwing

SUBSTITUTIONS: Christopher Carter for Dwayne Beam; Rebecca Masters for Penny Bell

ABSENT: Brittany Donatelli; Brad Queen; Daniel Rabon

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Michael Benson; Dr. Dan Ennis; Travis Overton; David Frost

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of March minutes was moved by David Klauder and seconded by Melanie McKeffery. Minutes passed with no objections. Approval of April minutes was moved by Matt Barnes and seconded by Alli Crandell. Minutes passed with no objections.

SENATE PRESIDENT REMARKS:

- Several academic policies were reviewed during the last Executive Council meeting. The ones that passed will be sent out via email.
- State service awards will be presented this week in three small ceremonies, limited to the employees receiving the awards only.
- Dr. DeCenzo's retirement and Dr. Benson's inauguration ceremonies will be held in September.
- Staff Senate report was presented at the Board of Trustees meeting with no questions or comments following.
- Report from the staff morale focus groups will be presented later this summer.

PRESIDENT AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

President Benson:

- Graduation ceremonies were an overall success even though the morning ceremonies were not as well attended as we'd hoped. We will continue to refine our ceremonies in the future.
- The Board of Trustees approved the budget at their last meeting. This budget included the compression increases for everyone that qualified.
- The updated organizational chart was sent out along with a new summer dress code.

- Dr. Ennis presented the first ever Faculty Awards before graduation, and we are hoping to do the same for staff with the hiring of a VP of Human Resources.

Provost Ennis:

- Summer school as started with some face-to-face classes, although most remain online.
- We are getting ready for fall semester and looking forward to mostly face-to-face classes with more student and faculty traffic on campus than we saw this past year.
- We are expecting a freshman class of about 2300 students. Enrollment numbers continue to be high.

Travis Overton:

- No comments

David Frost:

- Made a brief presentation explaining how the staff salary decompression study was conducted. He used a power point presentation that will be shared with all staff when they receive their results.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

In an effort to streamline Staff Senate meetings, but also continue to collect valuable employee feedback data, the Senate will begin referring Topic Suggestions that relate to specific areas of operation to the appropriate person in those areas. The Senate will continue to collect these submissions and will review them in total each semester to determine if there are organizational patterns that should be addressed by the Senate as a whole.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy and Welfare Committee – brief presentation on survey results; full presentation will be given at July meeting; working on bylaws adjustment to be presented in June.

Membership Committee – elections have been completed; the first meeting for new senators is July 13; wrapping up self-nominations for officer positions.

Communication Committee – no report

OLD BUSINESS: official results of April's votes:

Employee tuition waiver motion – 25 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Staff Ombuds Motion – 22 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstained

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion from Membership Committee:

Staff Senate has become a representation for staff across CCU campus. It has increased communication between staff and upper administration. The current duties (below) and the proposed changes requires additional meetings and duties outside of the Senate President's normal work schedule. There currently is no compensation for the Staff Senate President and due to the amount of commitment needed we would like to request additional pay of \$3000.00 per year.

Staff Senate President Duties

Currently 10% of the Senate President's workday is related to Staff Senate some weeks it's more than others.

Senate Management

- Agenda Development
- Submission review and delegation
- Coordinating information sharing
- Inquiry responses
- Website maintenance
- Meeting with the President – monthly
- Meeting with President Benson and Chief of Staff Overton – monthly
- Executive Committee chair
- Executive Committee meeting – monthly
- Full Senate meeting

Governance Coordination

- Faculty Senate Meeting attendance
- Executive Council Meetings – standing 2+ hour monthly meeting
- SGA Meeting attendance

Staff Representation

- Presidential Search Committee
- VP Marketing Search Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- University Technology

- The motion came from Membership committee with a second from Judy Johns.
- **The motion passed (21 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstained)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next meeting is June 8 at 9:00 am either via Zoom or with some sort of Zoom component

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 am.