

7-13-2021

Staff Senate, July 13, 2021

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Coastal Carolina University, "Staff Senate, July 13, 2021" (2021). *Staff Senate*. 28.
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Staff Senate

July 13, 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; Dwayne Bean; Jean Bennett; Roger Brown; Alli Crandell; Brittany Donatelli; John Dooly; Mark Garrison; Judy Johns; Michelle Lewis; Ebony McCray; Melanie McKeefery; Kelly Moore; Sean Pierce; Daniel Rabon; Wendy Singleton; David Speiser; Michele Varga; David Yancey; Travis Youngblood; Bobbi Yurkin; Sharlene Zwing

SUBSTITUTIONS: Jim Wright for Matthew Barnes; Tanja Warren for Penny Bell; Sophia Calhoun for April Betsch; Brian Hutchinson for David Klauder; Alexis McGarvey for Justin Poindexter; Chris Carter for Brad Queen

ABSENT: none

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Michael Benson; Dr. Dan Ennis; Travis Overton; David Frost; Rein Mungo; Brian Bunton; Vivian Ford; Kim Sherfese; Jim Solazzo; Amanda Craddock; Scott Dean

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: no minutes to approve.

SENATE PRESIDENT REMARKS:

- Welcome to all the new senators in attendance. Your first official meeting will be in August.
- Thank you to all of the senators who are rolling off. Most of you have been here since the beginning which is amazing and we have done a lot of work. I hope you are willing to be mentors to the incoming senators.
- Executive Council has not met yet this month due to the schedule.
- Emails were recently sent out regarding the general salary increase that was effective 6/16/21. Salary statements are available on webadvisor.
- If you have any specific questions regarding your increase, please reach out to HR directly.

PRESIDENT AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

President Benson:

- Fall Convocation is August 16th. It will be campus-wide for both faculty and staff. We are planning to have a meal together in the Lib Jackson Student Union after the convocation.
- We have 3 new Board of Trustee members and have started an orientation process for them.

- In the President's Cabinet meeting yesterday, I emphasized Founders Week again. I'd like for there to be more focus on the history of CCU and less on the president of CCU.

Provost Ennis:

- Founders Day was always one of my favorite things on campus and I'm excited to see it return. My favorite quote for Dr. Singleton (who I only met once) was "Do what is right for Coastal and apologize to Columbia later."
- Reminder that at some point in the convocation we will have to call to order a general faculty meeting. Staff are welcome to stay, but may also leave if they wish. The meeting will be live-streamed for anyone not able to attend in person.
- New Student Convocation will be Tuesday, August 17th.
- Classes begin on August 18th.
- Please remember all of the departments that will be working with student move-in and getting campus ready for students from August 12-18. Most departments will be working with students in some way, so please keep that in mind when you are requesting help from them for your department.
- Enrollment looks good. Freshman enrollment is expected to be 2,390 new students.
- Freshman retention is looking better than it did two weeks ago, but I don't have the actual numbers to share.

Travis Overton:

- The meeting that had been scheduled for last week with DOT to discuss the median on 544 was canceled due to a tropical depression moving through the area. President Benson and others are in discussions about the median to determine if this is the best option to pursue. We will be having further discussions with SC DOT and will let you know if there are any changes.
- We will continue working with staff senate on the Staff Ombuds role. A position description is currently being developed and we hope to share with the membership committee soon.
- Executive Council is looking at the organizational structure of the university, not necessarily the organizational chart, but looking at the organization structure (departments, divisions, etc) and consistency of department names across campus.
- We're working with HR to look at how the directory pulls and creates information.

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 – Alli gave a presentation of the open question results of the staff survey

Membership Committee – Alexi McGarvey is the new chair

Communication Committee – no report

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion brought from the Policy and Welfare Committee:

- Bylaws Revision
 - Added University and Staff Senate to clarify Executive Council/Executive Committee.
 - Article IV, Section 4, Officer Elections – took out time period and paper ballot, as it's defined in a separate document.
 - Article IV, Section 5, Added "or not filled during the Officer Election process"
 - Article IX, Section 3, Modified to account for representation on Executive Council, timeline for policy and motions, and communications if applicable.
 - Modified references to include article and section, rather than numeric system that was inconsistent in digital version.

*Complete revision is attached

Motion moved by Melanie McKeefery and seconded by Daniel Rabon. **Motion passed: 24 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

Judy Johns made a motion to recognize two staff members, Jean Bennett seconded the motion. John read the certificates recognizing David Yancey and Sandy Baldrige-Adrian for their hard work as staff senate presidents. **Motion passed by a simple voice vote.**

*Complete certificates are attached

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Kim Sherfese announced the Tuition Waiver Policy will be presented to Executive Council at their next meeting this coming Monday and more information will be shared after that.
- New name tags with your preferred pronouns are now available.
- Next Staff Senate meeting will be August 10 at 9:00 am in Alford Ballroom and live-streamed.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 am.