

Staff Senate Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 5, 2:00 pm

Hybrid meeting – Physical meeting space MU Veterans Hall of Honor and Zoom

In attendance: Carleen Dvorak, Doug Cushenbery, Don Shafer, Linda Parks, Kim Gaines, Derek Parks, Aileen Miller, Tasia Markowitz, Diana Mangus, Joel Ewy, Lindsay Bays, Kim Simon, Shelby Clark, Deena Wilson, Maria Solis, Tushar Walaskar, Rebekah Curry.

President Lindsay Bays called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

Secretary Report: Review minutes from August meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes.

Presentation from Mary McDaniel Anschutz about faculty/staff clinic through ESU Student Wellness. Clinic is separate from Student Wellness Center. Open 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday for walk-in labs. Then open 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Services provided: Sick care, gap care, physicals. Clinic can bill insurance and send prescriptions to pharmacy.

President's Report:

- Met with President Hush 1:1. Maria Solis reported they are earning new workflow in Academic Affairs. Lindsay said they talked about Staff Senate spending account. No information yet on raises for ESU.
- President's Council Meeting- We are excited to continue to be able to represent USS at this Council. (Lindsay Bays)
- Statewide UPS Group- Shelby Clark said group discussed days off around holidays. Hope is presidents will come together and make recommendation to KBOR for final decision for system. Raises were discussed. Some schools are giving them, others waiting for CBIZ data.

Committee Reports:

- Staff Senate Event Planning Committee. Tushar Walaskar shared the group is planning an October event; late October. Next meeting is next week to finalize details. Lindsay also shared about event planning budget. Discussion to have 6 events rather than every month. Next meeting: Sophia Dawson will come to discuss Can the Bods event. Can we plan event around that initiative?
- Faculty Senate. No report yet.
- ESU Tuition and Budget. No meeting yet.
- Parking. Hasn't met. Question about splitting parking permit payments into 2 payments. Linda reported it was asked for next year, but looks like one-time draw. Those who chose September for payment, it will come out of third paycheck.
- University Diversity and Inclusion Alliance- Tushar Walaskar. Has not met yet.

Old Business:

- Budgets are being approved and finalized- no updates to report at this time except for our approved budget for events. We will move forward to get good events started.

New Business:

- Employee Resource Groups — please consider attending. More info: <https://www.emporia.edu/work-emporia-state/employee-resource-groups/>
- Discuss vision/hopes/goals for USS for this year.
 - Continue to share ideas how we can expand on what we already are doing.
 - Ideas:
 - Events: bring us together as staff and faculty. Were very popular last year; added legitimacy to our group and improved morale.
 - Communication: staff want to receive regular communication; lack of communication is a significant complaint. Make sure staff know Staff Senate is their voice. Mention in your staff meetings your role in Staff Senate. An old-fashioned phone tree was requested to enhance electronic communication.

A question was asked: Communication was a big reason why we started planning events. If we cut back on events (6 a year from each month) do we need to boost the communication side?

We will continue to discuss these ideas and others moving forward.

- Internal Communication Portal: Lindsay shared about the new portal designed for faculty and staff to access news specific to their needs.
- Vote needed for new members. All at the September meeting have been voted in. We will table this until any new members attend a meeting.
- A question: with the campus reorganization, does our membership cover all the areas of campus? Doug Cushenbery shared that when the two representative groups combined, that requirement was left open to encourage more people to volunteer to serve.

Adjourn: Deena Wilson moved to adjourn; Shelby Clark seconded.

The meeting adjourned a few minutes after 3 p.m.

Next meeting – Tuesday October 3, at 2:00 p.m.