Staff Senate Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Hybrid meeting – Physical meeting space CH 166 and Zoom

In attendance:
Carleen Dvorak, Derek Parks, Greg Larson, Gwen Larson, Josh Jenek, Shelby Clark, Debra Rittgers, Bethanie O'Dell, Teddi Davis, Maria Solis, Diane Mangus, Don Shafer, Linda Parks, Rebekah Curry, Sheri Brooks, Lindsay Bays, Renee Bass, Christina Thomas, Joel Ewy, Kim Gaines, Doug Cushenbery, Cassie Dieker, Ray Lauber

President Josh Jenek called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

Secretary Report: Shelby Clark moved and Carleen Dvorak seconded to approve the corrected Minutes from September Meeting. The vote was unanimous.

President's Report:

- Staff Senate Presidents' Report
    - Josh Jenek reported he has attended two Leadership Team meetings. Much is confidential so he is unable to report on those items. He shared that there are big plans for the university, but they remain fluid. This is why some people believe administration is not being transparent. Return on investment is important for ESU programs. The plan is centered around students, who are the lifeblood of Emporia State. There are negative comments on social media, but please take those with a grain of salt. The commenters do not know the full story of what is happening.

- President's Council Meeting – Did not meet in September, next meeting is October 10th
- Statewide UPS Group – Did not meet this month
- KBOR Report – minutes available on KBOR website

Committee Reports:

- Athletic Advisory Board – Jayme Gillund — no report
- Faculty Senate – Gwen Larson — no report
- ESU Tuition and Budget – Greg Larson, Stephanie Mohling-Stites — haven't met yet
- Parking – Sheri Brooks, Deena Wilson, Kim Gaines, Sandy Sasidhar — next meeting is tomorrow Oct. 5
- University Diversity and Inclusion Alliance —Cassie Dieker — no report
- Satisfaction Survey Sub Committee – Joel Ewy and Doug Cushenbery
    - The committee is meeting every two weeks and is working to identify strong themes they have seen in the survey.
    - All comments are stripped out so respondents cannot be identified.
    - Group is working to identify how to gather feedback after results are released Nov. 1, perhaps with a cookie delivery around a week later. A script will be prepared that those delivering cookies can use to talk with colleagues.
    - Feedback from staff is needed so the state group can report to KBOR at December meeting.
    - Senators had questions about stripping comments and whether we lose good feedback by doing so.

Old Business:

- Satisfaction Survey update – Joel Ewy or Doug Cushenbery (above)
- Re-Wording of the Scholarship
    - Debra Rittgers reported that the Unclassified Dependent scholarship was created with two qualifications:
        - Recipient must be a dependent of an unclassified staff member
        - Recipient must be enrolled at least half-time and in good academic standing with a GPA or at least 2.50
    - The ESU scholarship committee added additional guidance:
        - The award is not renewable unless there are no other applicants
        - The minimum GPA should be 3.25
        - The recipient is expected to help with the USS picnic
            - Deb's suggestion is that the recipient is expected to assist with the USS annual fundraising effort for the scholarship
    - Doug Cushenbery moved and Greg Larson seconded to accept the new language (below). Motion passed unanimously
        - The award is not renewable unless there are no other applicants
        - The minimum GPA is 3.25
        - The recipient is expected to help with the USS annual fundraising effort for the scholarship
- Open enrollment — Ray Lauber of HR answered questions.
    - He shared that the entire month of October is open enrollment, but Emporia State is focusing its education efforts to the first two weeks — through Oct. 15. There will be no group information sessions after that. This push in the first half of the month helps HR turn back to its other duties after that.
    - Changes for 2023 benefits
        - Contributions to health savings accounts
        - State of Kansas will now pay all single-coverage dental policies
        - Additional options for FSAs
            - Commuter option includes being able to use to pay for parking. This does NOT pertain to ESU employees because we already have a pre-tax option to pay for parking passes through payroll deduction.
            - Community option would also pay for mass transit reimbursement, which includes LCAT.
    - ESU-sponsored sessions about employee benefits will be October 6, 10 and 12. This includes a session specifically for Spanish speakers.

New Business:

- Staff Senate Leadership team meets with Ken (President Hush) on October 5. What are your discussion items. Suggestions include:
    - Thank him for opportunity to be on the Leadership Team
    - Thank him for the morale boosters — sandwich lunch had greater attendance than expected
    - Being able to review/evaluate our supervisors
    - Try to get more days off around winter break to mirror the Emporia school district — the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and extra days before and after winter break week.

- October morale booster – Cookie Delivery – Satisfaction Survey - One-on-one interview
- November Event will be Thanksgiving themed or Chili/Potato Soup feed
- Other morale events:
    - Carleen Dvorak suggested a cider/hot chocolate day
    - Kim Gaines suggested an office decorating contest with a theme of Homecoming, Fall or Halloween.

Good of the Senate:
Other news for the Senate

Announcements:
Next meeting – Tuesday, November 1st, at **2:00 p.m.**

Adjourn — Debra Rittgers moved and Greg Larson seconded to adjourn the meeting. It adjourned at 3 p.m.