



**Executive Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, Dec 9th, 2015
Noon-1:30 p.m.
Alcove G, 3rd Level, Kansas Union**

Call to Order

- 12:00pm

Approval of Minutes

- Deb motions to approve, Steve seconds, all in favor, none oppose, approved 12:01pm

Reports

President – Chris Wallace

- Conceal carry information session held on Dec 8th (handout). Few attended, many streamed the session. Some were not given permission by their supervisors to attend. Senator poses question as to if Staff Senate can take a stance for or against conceal carry on campus. Exec Council discusses that Staff Senate cannot take a stance for an individual issue, but since this would affect all staff, this would need to be discussed in a full Staff Senate meeting under new business. Legislative Affairs committee will draft a statement for presenting at a future Staff Senate meeting. Question from senator on a potential campus walk-out if the law is enacted. Exec Council discusses that the faculty presenting the information session did not outright support or deny this, but that they did bring up how all faculty and staff are under university contracts. Question from senator on effectiveness of writing to senators versus media attention to the conceal carry issue. Exec Council discusses most faculty and staff live in Lawrence, and would be writing to the same two senators that have already been voicing their objection. Senator expresses that the media would give the campus a louder voice.
- Chris did not have a meeting with the Provost, who is currently wrapping up his tenure at KU for a position at Ole Miss. There will be a meeting next month with Saran Rosen.
- Search committee has been created for replacing the Provost. Staff Senate was not approached for input or participation in the search committee. Chris emailed the committee as to why Staff Senate was not invited to be involved, received a response stating that the University Senate President provided names of staff to be involved, but the staff are not known by the Staff Senate nor are they senators. There is a list of search committee members on the Provost webpage for reference.

Secretary – Tim Spencer

- No report.
- Precious Porras, who was recently added as Legislative Affairs co-chair, has not received Exec Council meeting invitations by email. This issue was resolved before the meeting.

Treasurer – Paula Hinman

- Only change from last month's report is a \$72.93 expense for the Diversity Workshop for Staff Senate senators, to be held on Friday, Dec 11th. This brings total available funds to \$6,900.93.

Legislative Affairs – Dawn Shew & Precious Porras

- Committee meeting to be held next Tuesday, Dec 15th. Conceal carry to be discussed. Diversity will also be discussed, and Kelly from University Relations will be present.
- Diversity Workshop for Staff Senate senators, to be held on Friday, Dec 11th. Expecting most of Staff Senate, around 50 senators, to be in attendance.
- Diversity Resolution Proposal discussed in new business.

Professional Development Chair – Debbie Forsyth

- 24-30 applications for professional development support have been received. The current allocation for professional development is \$2,500. Committee requests additional funds, but does not know how much to currently request. Exec Council agrees that applications should be reviewed first to assess how much is needed, then the committee should return with a request for additional funds from the general budget.
- Question from senator on retroactively funding past conferences with current professional development funds. This is not allowed by university policy. Additional question on supporting professional development in a future fiscal year with current fiscal year funds. This can be done, i.e. purchase of airfare or registration in advance, but would need to be completed with a dept PCard, possibly through the Governance office via Kathy Reed.

Personnel Affairs Chair-Steven Levenson

- Committee meeting tabled due to birth of committee member's child and other members out sick.

Public Relations Chair – Cody Case

- Staff Senate email address discussed. Some senators to be granted access to the account in order to centralize messages and meeting invitations.

Elections Chair – Andy Jackson

- Excused

HRM – Ola Faucher

- Excused

Unfinished Business

- Senator Emily Lee's email (handout) concerning furloughs and raises on campus. Exec council discusses that university policy dictates how furloughs are handled. Last summer this was superseded by state mechanisms. This discussion is hypothetical but concerns are valid. Staff Senate cannot advocate for this issue, as this is university policy and state budget issues are beyond our control. Emily does have the option to bring up furlough and pay issues under new business. Separate senator raises concern over how HR determines essential and non-essential staff, at some points delegating this decision to lower-level HR instead of top HR decision. Due to timeframe of furloughs, i.e. end of fiscal year, this would need to factor into which financial staff are deemed essential and view the larger scope of the university's financial deadlines.
- Discussion over when new business should be requested and added to the agenda. Idea for the future to request new business items the Wednesday before every Exec Council meeting, so that they can be added to the agenda by that Friday before the Exec Council meeting.

New Business

- Diversity Resolution Proposal (handout). Proposal reflects many aspects of the Student Senate proposal, including support for the creation of a new standing committee for Diversity and Inclusion and the creation of a new Diversity and Inclusion Chair. Precious has expressed interest in serving in this new chair role. Exec Council proposes creating an Adhoc committee to address the current proposal, which would include annual training, improving recruitment and diverse representation in Staff Senate, while Senate bylaws are updated and elections take place for a future standing committee. Legislative Affairs

committee will update and submit the resolution for new business at the December full Staff Senate meeting, to be then tabled for a vote during the full January meeting.

Call to Adjourn

- Tim motions, Deb seconds, all in favor, none oppose, adjourned 1:06pm

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (*STAFF SENATE*)

Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM, Alcove G, 3rd Level, Kansas Union

FULL SENATE (*STAFF SENATE*)

Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM, Malott Room, 6th Level, Kansas Union

Senators excused from meeting: Andy Jackson, Easan Selvan, Precious Porras, Ola Faucher

Minutes revised 12/10