



**Executive Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, January 13th, 2016
Noon-1:30 p.m.
Alcove G, 3rd Level, Kansas Union**

Call to Order
12:00pm

Approval of Minutes
Liz motions, Paula seconds, all in favor, none oppose, approved 12:00pm

Reports

President – Chris Wallace

- No report
- Over the summer to have Exec Council meet. Idea of looking at committee charges to see if items need to be updated, addressed and review progress of current charges. Exec Council would look at these charges in June or July, assess and bring these items to vote in August. There should be standing charges in addition to specific charges that can be added (long-term/short-term). There has been interest in training and development of new committee chairs. Idea of having chair elections in May and not August, to allow for transition over the summer before the new academic year, especially this year with potential high turnover due to the merger of senates.

Secretary – Tim Spencer

- No report

Treasurer – Paula Hinman

- No report, no changes

Legislative Affairs – Dawn Shew & Precious Porras

- Move to have Diversity committee and chair voted on. Typos to be addressed, and motion can occur at next full Staff Senate meeting.
- Douglas County Legislators/Delegates meeting. Presented three items in 20 minutes, addressing the gun safety issue, mentioned efforts towards greater equity in Staff Senate, and concerns about salary and furlough. Dawn was on the news (Channel 6), and Staff Senate was the only group that had their concerns on the news. Legislators/Delegates were sympathetic to the three items. Regarding gun issue and furlough, one challenge is that Legislators/Delegates don't fully understand the work that we, state employees, do. Tom Sloan encouraged a blue out (sick day) for all state employees, not just university employees. Ola states historically state employee positions are viewed as cushy and overpaid. Barbara Ballard mentioned that independent legislation is going to be submitted concerning the gun laws. Legislatures contacted Dawn off the record, but headway is still not looking promising. Staff Senate members appreciate Dawn attending and presenting with such late notice.
- Chris mentions a letter was forwarded to Amanda as previous president, and that letters should be mailed to Cathy Reed and not individual senators.
- Ola states health Insurance is going up, getting less for more \$, for state employees and not county employees. Only explanation is to address rising costs. Next year there will be continued increases.
- Day on the Hill in Topeka next month. Senate will need to decide if representatives will be sent and how to prep the senators (talking points, state senators to avoid, etc). Last year higher administration discouraged senators from attending. Staff will need to take a personal day for this event if attending. Look at also notifying interested staff outside senate in attending.

- Congratulations to Precious Porras on accepting the co-chair position for the Legislative Affairs committee.

Professional Development Chair – Debbie Forsyth

- Excused, report below
 - Jeannette Johnson Professional Development Funds –
 - The Committee was originally awarded \$2,500 (combination of monies from Provost Office and Office of Human Resources). There were 37 applicants; 35 met qualifications. A request for additional funds was made for \$2,000 from the general fund. The Committee agreed to have only one cycle of awards and devote time to other interests. We awarded \$4,500 in professional development awards to 16 individuals. Attached is the spreadsheet.
 - 4 Presenters \$500 \$2,000
 - 8 Score 96-100 \$250 \$2,000
 - 4 Score 95 \$125 \$500
 - TOTAL \$4,500
 - The Committee has also been involved with the Leadership Summit Committee. To date several of us are gathering swag to be used as give-away prizes. In addition, a larger group plan on volunteering for various aspects of the conference to be held on Feb. 18, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Kansas Union.
 - There should be a balance of approximately \$2300 in general funds. How would the Senate prefer to use these funds? In the past, there has been a spring Mini Wheat State tour. If this is something we want to pursue what is the budget? Also, the Committee would need to begin work immediately to plan for a May date; preferably Stop Day, Friday, May 6. Suggestions are welcome and encouraged.
- Decision on Mini Wheat State Tour, bring up at full Senate meeting on Wednesday.
- Idea of providing information on number of awards and total amount awarded on Staff Senate website.

Personnel Affairs Chair-Steven Levenson

- Committee interested in addressing notice of non-reappointment, states the current verbage is vague. Ola is looking for feedback on policies with her workgroup. Avenue of appeal is only if university misses timeframe. Ola did mention that there was a need for updating this information in a former meeting, and will look into obtaining this previous feedback. Rumors of university staff who were not reappointed due to funding, change in permanent salary reduction or contingent on funding, yet there were new positions being offered. Ola mentions that non-reappointment is not performance-based. Some scenarios do exist for appointing outside.

Public Relations Chair – Cody Case

- Diversity statement. Question on revising work put forth, including training attended and idea of committee and chair creation. Action was required first, then a statement. Will want to approve this and start taking applications. Cody will work with Easan to update and address in full senate.
- Next two years are critical in terms of committee work. Ideas of displaying work accomplished on website, and idea of having those interested in committee chair positions to make presentations. Liz mentions that everyone is up for reelection this coming year, and interest needs to be generated or we will continue to loose members. In the future there will be a stagger in re-appointment, with questions on how this will occur. One idea mentioned that there could be a measurement of how many years you will serve based on number of votes.
- Liz mentions to speak with various underrepresented groups to generate interest.

Elections Chair – Andy Jackson

- No report
- Senate membership is currently one above the limit for necessary voting on appointment.
- Open positions will be advertised in March, elections to be held in April, and the new senators will meet at the May senate meeting.
- Student Senate has a program/software for registering and voting, which will be used in part by Staff Senate this spring.

- Previous years, UPS staff only received email on voting. There are many staff, especially night shift, who do not have access to a computer. Notification could go out in paper form as well, but voting will be held online. Ideas for flyers for bulletin boards, especially at zone shops. Over 200+ night staff that do not report to central but to specific locations are kept out of the loop if only distributed information to central. Flyers can be given to security officers to be disseminated to night staff. Discussion about addressing this with night supervisors to make sure this information is provided, including bringing laptops to the employees for voting or providing this information during required night training.

HRM – Ola Faucher

- No report
- No information from state concerning furloughs, and policy is in place. Staff are concerned, Ola mentioning that the state says it will be worse this year than last year. Waiting on information from the state.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- None

Call to Adjourn

- Andy motions, Liz seconds, all in favor, none oppose, adjourned 12:49pm

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (STAFF SENATE)

Wednesday, February 10, 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

Excused from meeting: Debbie Forsyth, Easan Selvan