Staff Senate Minutes

January 06, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Margie Link called the Arkansas Tech University Staff Senate meeting to order on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:02 a.m. in Webex virtual online meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

**Senators Present:**

Kaitlynn Beaird

Rachel Broussard

Judy Crouch

Kaitlin Ennis

Margie Link

Amber Meeks

Alan Parsons

Brittany Reves

Lyndsey Simpson

Amee Standridge

Alisha Williams Cynthia Dixon

Susan Johnson

**Senators Absent:**

Christopher Duncan

Shelly Handley Tanya Martin

Angie Bell Teresa Lutz

Lydia Rogers Brandi Duvall

**Visitor(s):**

Linda Birkner Meredith Lawson Jennifer Thomas

**Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes from the December 2020 meeting were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. Senator Crouch filed a motion to accept the minutes. Senator Williams seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by Senate vote.

**Special Report**

Dr. Birkner – Dr. Bowen’s virtual meeting for the spring on Monday, January 11th at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, January 12th at 10 a.m. Links are on OneTech.

* Construction update:
  + The library and Witherspoon are about 85% complete, just waiting on tile but expect it this week. Hull is about 60% complete.
  + The new roof is on Williamson and beginning second phase of drying out. There are major improvements on the exterior look of the building.
  + The Board approved demolition of three properties on North El Paso: Jerry’s Eats, the old laundromat, and upstairs apartment and garage of 901/903 duplex. They should be taken down this spring.
  + Board approved transfer of funds from Hughes to 404 North El Paso to add fiber down North El Paso for administration to move there instead of to Hughes, as it would be cheaper for them to. They plan to move around fall of 2021.

**Committee Reports**

* **President’s Communication –** No report
* **Budget Advisory –** No report
* **Scholarship –** No report
* **University Strategic Planning –** No report
* **Insurance Committee –** No report
* **IT Prioritization and Impact** – Senator Crouch
  + The executive council is reviewing a proposal from Ellucian concerning moving the system into the cloud as our other contract is up in June 2021 and we need to fit a choice into this 5-year budget for restructuring. They’re continuing to implement the equipment and network items funded through the CARES Act and reserve funds. They have completed classroom upgrades, worked on a grant proposal with eTech and Academic Affairs for additional funding possibilities and equipment and training as we continue in the direction of remote learning and delivery.
* **University Communication Working Group –** No report
* **Campus Space and Utilization –** No report
* **Green and Gold Cupboard –** No report
* **Staff Awards –** No report

**Old Business**

*Staff Senate Survey*

President Link asked for suggestions regarding the survey that will be sent out in February and reminded everyone to continue thinking on it.

**New Business**

*Update and Distribute Constituents*

President Link thanked those who sent the list back with their constituents. Vice President Parsons requested having a master list for everyone to use and President Link said she would look into getting it done in February.

**Open Forum**

*Special Elections*

Vice President Parsons brought up holding a special election to fill Karissa Webb’s position and President Link said we would discuss at the next meeting.

**Announcements**

None

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 11 a.m. Dr. Robin Bowen will be a special guest.

**Meeting Adjourned**

President Link filed a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Parsons seconded the motion. The Senate voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaitlynn Beaird, Secretary