

STAFF SENATE

Wednesday, August 8, 2018
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The Ozark Campus Staff Senate was called to order on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 9:06 a.m. in Conference Room 137 in the Ozark Health Science and Wellness Building.

ROLL CALL

Senators Present:

Jennifer Thomas
Mike Bogue
Erin Brinkley

David Spicer
Stacie Harden
Julie Schmalz

Ex-Officio Absent:

Beverly Nehus

MINUTES: The minutes from the July 2018 meeting were disbursed. A motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Senator Schmalz and seconded by Senator Harden, and all approved, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Report from President's Communication Committee:** Vice President Peter Clifton attended the meeting and gave the following updates:
 - Revenue generating contracts have been transferred to the Office of Procurement and Risk Management Services.
 - Russellville Bookstore has a new manager.
 - Tax free weekend August 4th and 5th.
 - Michael Hutchinson reporting donations/pledges are up 30% to 4.5 million
 - The ATU Office of Information Systems is preparing for the software as a service (SaaS) migration of the Blackboard Learn (BbLearn) system during an upcoming planned maintenance from Friday, Aug. 3, at 11:59 p.m. to Saturday, Aug. 11. This extended maintenance period will be utilized to deploy several upgrades to the system. Visit OneTech campus announcements for more details.
 - Russellville Library will be switching to VOIP.
 - Residence hall move in on Sunday August 19 from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. Contact Kevin Solomon if you would like to help—free t-shirt available.
 - Summer commencement scheduled for August 11th.
 - March on Main scheduled for August 25th. March on Main is a less than a 1 mile walk beginning at 4:30 p.m. at Thone Stadium and ending at Depot Park.
 - ATU is the #1 leader in STEM: the statewide leader in attracting incoming students from Arkansas who wish to major in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.
 - ATU's Dr. Alaric Williams was among 19 individuals from around the United States selected to participate in the 2018 AABHE Leadership and Mentoring Institute.

- Dr. Keegan Nichols, ATU Vice President for Student Affairs, will be among the featured speakers at the 2018 NASPA Region IV-West Conference in Wichita, Kansas.
 - Aubrey Holt, Director of Campus Life, has been selected to participate in a 2018-2019 regional cohort of the SERVE Academy conducted by NASPA, Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education.
 - The Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center (ASBTDC) regional office at ATU and the ATU Office of Human Resources will present a customer service workshop from 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday August 7, 2018. Advanced registration is required. This training will be offered on the Ozark Campus on October 11th time to be announced.
 - Heart and Vascular screenings will be conducted on the Russellville Campus on September 7, 2018 and the Ozark Campus on September 24, 2018. Look for more information soon.
- **Report from Russellville Staff Senate:** Senator Harden gave a report from the Russellville Staff Senate meeting on the following topics:
 - A financial advisor visited the Senate meeting and shared valuable information.
 - Discounted Aquatic Center passes are currently in the works for ATU employees.
 - Green and Gold cupboard needs donations. Staff could possibly start a food drive or a suggestion was made to set up a permanent location for donations to be given.
 - Staff handbook is being presented to Executive Council.
 - Staff are wondering if it could be announced how the one time money from the Governor was used.
 - A discussion was made how to fill Senate slots when an employee transfers or leaves ATU.
 - Staff Senate Scholarship has been approved.
- **Comment from Website:** An anonymous comment was submitted via the Staff Senate website concerning the past election process. The complaint was addressed and as stated in prior Staff Senate minutes the by-laws are currently being looked over for any possible amendments needed. During the above discussion a motion was made by Senator Schmalz.
 - Senator Schmalz entertained a motion to allow Senate members and their fellow staff members to communicate to eliminate the comment section on the Staff Senate website and to instead add links to the emails of all Staff Senate members. A note should also be added to the website stating only communications received from official ATU e-mails will be accepted. Senator Brinkley seconded the motioned. Voting was open to the senate, and all approved, motion passed.
- **Birthday Cards:** Cards were presented for September Staff Birthdays to be signed and delivered.
 - **Employee of the Month:** Phil Spiegel was drawn as the September Employee of the Month.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Bike Rack Update:** No new update at this time.
- **Food Fight Results for SGA Pantry:** The SGA Food Fight was a tremendous success with many items donated. The winning team was the FOOD Fighters. Staff Senate thanks all who participated!
- **ATU Ozark Food Pantry Update-** No update was given on the food pantry.
- **Staff Senate By-laws Amendments:** President Spicer presented the Senate with a draft copy of a survey to be sent out to Staff. The survey will allow staff members to comment on amendments to the by-laws, quarterly potlucks, and staff senate election process.
- **Staff Professional Development:** Customer Service training is scheduled for October 11 for Ozark Campus, time to be announced soon.
- **Staff Potlucks:** The next Staff Senate Potluck is tentatively scheduled for September 28th at 8:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A handout was presented to the Senate from Dr. Murders on a community service outreach program called “Funnelology 101.” This program would be a volunteer assembly line based project providing meals to those in need for \$.25 per meal.
- Staff Senate was presented with an opportunity to volunteer in the absence of recently retired Kathy Bartlett. Some opportunities will include Ozark Campus Christmas Angels at the nursing homes and Christmas Spirit Food Basket. Please look for more information in the future.
- Mr. Bogue announced he will be emailing results out from the ALI survey. Paper copies will also be available.
- Dr. Bowen will be speaking at Ozark Campus August 17, 2018.

GOOD AND WELFARE

The Staff Senate monthly meeting is presently scheduled for September 7, 2018 at 9:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Harden motioned, Senator Schmalz seconded, and all approve and motion carried to adjourn at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Thomas, Secretary