



## STAFF SENATE

Wednesday, August 3, 2016  
Meeting Minutes

### CALL TO ORDER

The Tech Staff Senate was called to order by President Collins on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 202 of Baswell Techionery.

### ROLL CALL

#### Senators Present:

Sandra Anderson  
Brandi Collins  
Pam Cooper  
Shawna Davis  
Rhonda Fleming  
Lindelle Fraser  
Amanda Handley  
Tiffany Henry

James Higgs  
Danny Jones  
Margie Link  
Annie McNeely  
Jeff Mumert  
Lindsey Riedmueller  
Ryan Taylor  
Roger Trusty

#### Senators Absent:

Brittany Flippo  
Jeff Nichols  
Julia Pope  
Bettye Williamson

#### Visitor(s):

On August 3, 2016, the minutes from the July 6, 2016 meeting were distributed electronically and approved as corrected.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Safety Concerns

The senators discussed potential safety issues for Pokémon Go players on the ATU campus. Although the application has built-warnings for players, the senate urges faculty and staff to watch for pedestrians that may be unaware of their surroundings.

Senator Link brought forward concerns in regard to a reduction in visibility caused by the crepe myrtle trees near the O Street and Arkansas Avenue entrance to campus. Senator Henry advised the problem should be addressed before it becomes an issue. President Collins will contact Public Safety to ascertain whether



### **NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

or not visibility issues have been reported and/or if accidents have been caused by the visibility issue. Senator Cooper also recommended the shrubbery between Young and Chambers Cafeteria be examined, as pedestrians cutting through the open spaces creates a potential safety issue. Senator Higgs stated the shrubs present a maintenance issue as well, indicating the shrubs sustain damage as a result of ATU students, employees, and visitors hitting them as they park their vehicles. Maintaining uniformity is a problem. Senator Henry asked about the possibility of placing cross walk signage at the intersection of O Street and Arkansas Avenue. President Collins will ask if this is possible.

### Employee Children in the office

The matter of employees bringing their children to work was brought forward as President Collins had received a complaint. The anonymous staff member requested the senate look into developing an official policy. The senators agreed that, should there ever be an issue within a department, the direct supervisor should address the problem with the employee. The senators also agree Human Resources should be contacted if the issue has been reported to the supervisor, remains unaddressed, and is such that employees within the department are distracted and/or service is interrupted. The senators voted unanimously against developing an official, campus-wide policy.

### Feedback from Staff

President Collins shared positive feedback she received from staff in custodial services regarding the July 20<sup>th</sup> meet-and-greet with Dr. Bowen and Ms. Hinkle, Vice President for Administration and Finance.

### Salary Questions

President Collins spoke with staff concerned about the salary tiers in state positions. The concern stems from new employees beginning at the minimum salary level despite credentials and/or experience. President Collins forwarded the concerns to Dr. Bowen and Ms. Hinkle who responded with appreciation for the comments. They hope the legislature will review these concerns during the next legislative session.

### Electric Car Charging Stations

Senator Mumert brought forward a staff inquiry concerning electric car charging stations. Senator Jones recommended a request be submitted to Ms. Hinkle and Mr. Lasey, Director of the Physical Plant. President Collins requested more research on the matter. Senators Mumert and Link volunteered to conduct research on similar offerings at other institutions and report their findings.

### Building Security

It was reported that classroom doors in Corley lack a locking mechanism that operates without a key. The issue was raised over one year ago and the locks have



**NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

not been changed. Per Senator Jones, the locks are expensive and Facilities Management does not set the prices. The senators agreed student safety is a priority. President Collins will bring the issue to the administration's attention. The question of building manager responsibilities was also raised. The senators would like information concerning the scope of duties and responsibilities for this position. In addition, the senators wanted to ask if Public Safety planned to inspect buildings and make recommendations. President Collins will contact Heath Whorton, University Emergency Manager, concerning these questions.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Staff Handbook Update

At this time, the handbook is not ready for review.

Insurance Premiums

Per President Collins, there is no new information at this time.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

August 3, 2016: Business Expo at Tucker Coliseum until 4:00 pm

August 17, 2016: Faculty/Staff Luncheon in Chambers Cafeteria from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm

**GOOD AND WELFARE**

Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in Baswell Techionery, Room 202.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m. by President Collins.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindelle Fraser, Secretary

