



## STAFF SENATE

Wednesday, September 7, 2016  
Meeting Minutes

### CALL TO ORDER

The Tech Staff Senate was called to order by President Collins on Wednesday, September 7, 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  
Brittany Flippo  
Lindelle Fraser  
Amanda Handley

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

#### Senators Absent:

Tiffany Henry

Bettye Williamson

#### Visitor(s):

On September 7, 2016, the minutes from the August 3, 2016 meeting were distributed electronically and approved as written.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Standing Committees

The Staff Senate has been asked to provide representation on the following standing committees: University Budget, Campus Utilization of Space, and Technology Prioritization. The senators agreed the president of the senate should serve on the Budget Committee. Senator Fraser volunteered to serve on the Utilization of Space Committee and Senator Link volunteered to serve on the Technology Prioritization Committee.

#### Upcoming Senator Election

The following areas have seats open for the upcoming election:

1 Registrar's Office/Admissions  
1 Alumni/Administration/Office of the President  
1 Academic Affairs

2 Facilities Management  
2 At Large



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

An anonymous staff member has requested a dedicated seat for departmental administrative assistants. Senator Riedmueller recommended candidates campaign and email staff in their respective areas to generate support. Senator Fraser recommended the creation of a candidate's page on the staff senate website to include a headshot and short bio for constituents to review online. Senator Jones advised that dedicating seats in this manner could create issues in the future. Senator Fleming reminded senators that no one is excluded from the process. President Collins called for a vote. The final count was 17 to 1 in favor of maintaining the current seat allocation.

#### Policy for Staff Admission to Athletic Events

At a recent athletic event, a misunderstanding arose over the number of family members and guests permitted to accompany faculty and staff free of charge. Senator Cooper will follow up with the Athletic Director for clarification.

#### Complaint about Water Quality in Brown Building

Employees have inquired via Senator Fleming about the installation of a filtration system for the water fountains in the Brown Building. The employees complained the water in this building has taste and overall quality issues. Senator Jones recommended Senator Fleming contact Galen Rounsaville, University Construction Manager, as the building may be under warranty. Senator Jones estimated the price of these filters to be in the 300.00 – 400.00 range. Senator Fleming will follow up with Mr. Rounsaville on this issue.

#### Parking for the Brown Building

Per Senator Fleming, she has received multiple complaints concerning the availability and condition of the parking area behind the Brown Building. Parking is limited and the gravel areas have drainage issues. Per Senator Higgs' understanding, the current Public Safety building will be leveled to create parking if the office relocates. At this time, the parking situation remains uncertain.

#### Tech Fit Facilities

Senator Cooper reported ventilation and cleanliness issues in the shower areas of the Tech Fit womens' locker room. Senator Cooper will take photos of the area and forward them to President Collins. President Collins will take the concerns to Ms. Hinkle, VP for Administration and Finance.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Staff Handbook

The handbook is still in draft form. Sick leave and vacation leave policies are currently under review. Senator Trusty asked if any decisions have been made concerning catastrophic leave qualifications. President Collins said more information will be available once the handbook is ready for review.



### **OLD BUSINESS (continued)**

#### Safety Concerns

President Collins has spoken with Heath Whorton, University Emergency Manager, and he hopes to have an update on the visibility concerns brought forward at the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting by the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### Car Charging Stations

Senators Mumert and Link shared information from their research on charging stations at other institutions. Senator Mumert found that some universities have instated an hourly fee for charging vehicles. In further research he found that it may take 3-6 hours to fully charge a vehicle. In addition, charging station equipment costs are variable, depending on the anticipated use (see estimates below). Senator Link has reached out to a representative in the Development Office about grant possibilities and is waiting for a response. The item has been tabled.

Home Charging Station: 600.00 – 700.00

Parking Garage Station: 5, 500.00

Curb-side Station: 16,000.00

#### Update on Pay Scale and Day Care

These items have been submitted to Dr. Mott, Chief of Staff, and President Bowen. The administration is investigating these items and hopes to have more information available toward the end of the calendar year.

#### Staff Evaluations

Senator Pope inquired about the status of staff evaluations and supervisor evaluations. Per President Collins, Ms. Southard, Interim Director for Human Resources, is currently reviewing information and looking into the possibilities.

#### Faculty/Staff Tuition Waivers

Senator Trusty brought forward concerns over the faculty/staff tuition waiver policy. Staff in his area have concerns about the potential for changes to the current policy. President Collins will bring the question before the administration and report back to senate if any changes are under consideration.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### OIS Survey

Senator Mumert urged senators to remind constituents to complete the OIS website survey. The link to the survey is : <http://atuoissurvey.questionpro.com>.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in Baswell Techionery, Room 202.



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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m. by President Collins.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindelle Fraser, Secretary

