

## Staff Senate Minutes

June 13, 2024

### CALL TO ORDER

President Kristian Thompson called the Arkansas Tech University Staff Senate meeting to order on Thursday June 13, 2024 at 9:01 a.m. in a hybrid in-person and WebEx virtual online meeting.

### ROLL CALL

#### Senators Present:

Sabrina Anwar  
Peggy Ayers  
Rachel Broussard  
Deidra Dillard  
Slade Dupuy

Kim Hilliard  
Katie Hook  
Amber Jacimore  
Krystal Manning  
Whitney Moore

Tanda Morrison  
Tammy Rye  
Kristian Thompson

#### Senators Absent:

Bethany Brown  
Julie Ennis  
Connie Herring  
Kacie Lopez

Cody Neal  
Miranda Senn  
Scott Tomlin

#### Visitor(s):

Abby Davis  
Alexis Scrimshire  
Alisa Waniewski  
Amber Meeks  
Andrea Eubanks  
Ashley Bryant  
Bryan Rank

Cole Hendrix  
Ilona Davidson  
Julia Pope  
Melissa South  
Nichole Edwards  
Shanteal Scott  
Susan Johnson

### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes from the May 2, 2024 meeting were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. Senator Hilliard filed a motion to accept the minutes. Senator Dillard seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by Senate vote.

### **Senate Discussion**

Below are the recent election results to fill the positions of the members those terms are ending as well as the positions that were granted by the board. These members will join us at our July meeting.

#### **Election Results**

- Division of Student Affairs
  - Jenna Bradley
  - Mackenzie Taylor
  - Megan Bell
  - Shelly Hall
- Division of Admin and Finance
  - Nick Schluterman
  - ~~Traci Halsted~~ Bonnie Freeman
- Division of Athletics
  - Kate Carter
  - Cesiley Rideau

Thank you all so much for joining us as senators. We appreciate the commitment you are making to us, the staff, and the University!

On the other side of the coin, we are saying “good bye for now” to 4 senators. Deidre Dillard, Julie Ennis, Krystal Manning, and Tammy Rye, we appreciate the time and dedication you have given us and the University.

#### **Committee Updates:**

- Budget Advisory
  - No update
- Campus Space & Utilization
  - No update
- Emergency Management & Safety
  - No update
- Access and Equity Committee
  - No update
- International Travel Advisory Council
  - No update
- Technology Prioritization
  - No update
- Insurance, Benefits, & Wellness
  - No update
- Presidential Communication
  - No update

### **Concerns & Questions brought to Staff Senate**

Can someone provide the verbiage to explain to the students differential fees?	Differential fees are broken down into two parts. 1) The course fee is like levelized billing. It will help students predict the cost of tuition for the next 4 years. 2) Will depend on the degree field you choose. Some degrees cost more due to labs, equipment, etc. It is a way to fairly charge students based on the degree path they have chosen and how much they could potentially make in that field. Fees will be added once they have taken gen ed courses. Meaning there is no increase to gen ed classes. Over the next 4 years, the max a student could potentially see increase, is 2%.
Why is Midtown not open in RCB during the summer?	Midtown said that it is not cost efficient for them to be open during the summer. Also, they like to employee students to run the coffee bar and they do not have the coverage to open during the summer. However, they appreciate the enthusiasm and encourages everyone to still come see them at their many off campus locations.
Why are we not able to be part of the state's insurance group?	When ADHE broke off from the state insurance, we fell under ADHE and it holds public universities responsible to provide their own insurance.
When receiving Years of Service pay, can it be a separate check from our regular pay and not taxed? Is it classified as earned wages?	It is classified as earned wages and per IRS regulations it must be taxed, which is why it is included on your normal pay check.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

At 9:11 am Senator Ayers made a motion to adjourn, and Senator Hilliard seconded. President Thompson concluded the June 13, 2024 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Whitney Moore, Secretary