

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STAFF SENATE MEETING**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Close-Hipp Building, Lumpkin Auditorium, 8th Floor

PRESIDING: Tyson Lusk, President

Call to Order – Tyson Lusk, President

President Lusk officially called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. President Lusk welcomed staff senators and visitors to the staff senate meeting. He reminded attendees that only staff senators who are in person are permitted to speak during the meeting.

Roll Call/Attendance Report - Katherine Hilson, Secretary

Secretary Hilson checked the roll after taking attendance. According to the attendance report, 41 senators were in attendance, 11 senators were absent, no senators gave proxies, and two senators were virtual.

Establish Quorum – Chris Burkett, Parliamentarian

Based on the attendance report, Secretary Hilson declared a quorum was established and Parliamentarian Burkett declared business could be conducted.

Approval of Minutes – Tyson Lusk, President

There were no changes to the October 10, 2023, staff senate meeting minutes. Senator Culpepper made a motion to accept the October 10, 2023, general body staff senate minutes as written. Senator Lee seconded the motion to accept the minutes as written. All senators were in favor. The motion was adopted and carried, and the minutes were accepted as written.

Guest Speaker – Ashley Kelly-Quirk, LMSW, Associate Director, SAVIP

- Unfortunately, we have had to reschedule with Ashley due to illness. We will keep you all updated!

Reports of Officers:

Tyson Lusk, President

- Staff Senate – fill out the incentives survey.
- Mental health space for staff – renderings and budget in the works
- Constituents and safety from SAVIP
- Jeff Black is coming in December
- We are in the process of having three finalist candidates for the Staff Ombudsperson position. Planning to have opportunities for you all to connect with these candidates.
- Staff Appreciation Day budget and programming is being developed.

Reports of Committees:

Membership: William Boland/Julia Hodge

- We're in the process of reviewing current senator numbers and looking into several possible recommendations to change the apportionment of senators, particularly when it comes to those representing academic units.
- We hope to have concrete recommendations by the end of the semester.

Communications: Thom Harman/Michaela Taylor

- Our main update is we have decided on a simple format to share Staff Senate information with other staffers in our offices. We will send an example after the Staff Senate meeting and accept feedback and edits.

Staff Policy and Well-Being: Beth Herron/Cassandra Pope

- At our last meeting we had an update from HR that mainly focused on EPMS changes. Sounds like the process is going more slowly than originally anticipated.
- We discussed plans for an improved website from HR.
- Liam Hine – chair of the faculty welfare committee and we are hoping to collaborate with the faculty senate.
- We are discussing temporary accessibility for staff on campus.

Community Projects: Toni Karl/Amanda Minnet

- Service Saturday was a success! Saturday, October 28th we participated in USC Service Saturday. We met at Davis Field and walked to MLK Park for our assigned service project picking up trash. Thank you to Senator Margee Zeigler for coordinating and for the following volunteers representing the Staff Senate:

Margee Zeigler
Amanda Minnett
Toni Karl
Vanessa Berry
Terrance Gilmore
Megan Colascione
Chris Burkett
Sam Beals

- We continue to collect pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House Charities. *Don't forget to save them especially during these last 2 football games... ask your friends to participate! We will donate them at the end of the academic year.
- We are collecting school supplies today for the Student Success Center. If you forgot, please bring to the December general body meeting.
- We are also collecting specific school supplies for 7th grade World Geography Class at Hand Middle School.

Professional Development: Georgia Doran/Rebecca Christopher

- We are awaiting a response from OPD about presenting in February.
- We are also still trying to access the questions and responses from last year's PD survey.
- We have reached out to OPD for items we could include in our survey for this year and for other ways we can assist the office.

By-Laws: Julia Bellon/Marissa Buck

- We had the first reading of the proposed bylaw change regarding committee membership. With this read, we will vote on this at our next meeting.
 - Amend the USC Staff Bylaws Article VII, Section 1, Letter B, Number 1 from: All Senators are eligible to serve on a committee. Senators may serve on multiple committees.
 - To be revised to read: Senators will be assigned to one standing committee by the Executive Committee. A standing committee must have a minimum of four (4) assigned Senators. If a standing committee falls below the four (4) Senator minimum, Senators may be reassigned by the Executive Committee. Senators may serve on additional committees on a volunteer basis as long as it does not impact their duties associated with their assigned committee.

Staff Senate Awards and Recognition Committee (Ad-Hoc): Bridget Leslie

- The Awards and Recognition Committee met on October 24th. We reviewed our charge and introduced our new members. For the Staff Awards Day, we discussed logistics and updates to include that the draft proposed budget is still under review with the Executive Committee.
- We discussed the draft resolutions next steps, which has had its first reading and now is up for a final reading and vote to move forward. We are still asking for this resolution request to be fast tracked.
- For homework, the Committee is rereviewing the awards criteria to ensure it still aligns with the Faculty/Staff Award Authorization approved by the Board of Trustees and where possible expand the number of awards/scholarships that may be granted.
- Another poll is being generated to find a static meeting date since we now have new members.

Staff Senate Scholarship/Fundraising Committee (Ad-Hoc): Chelsey Malloy/Wright Culpepper

- Senator Malloy had her baby boy! Congratulations to her and her family!
- Focusing on Give for Garnet
- We know we get benefits regarding classes, but we are researching additional funding for any staff member who may not be able to cover their fees for classes.

Additional Announcements

- Last session, we had the USC Staff Day resolution first read. We would like to open for discussion. Senator McCormick motioned to discuss the resolution. Senator Herron seconded the motion. President Lusk opened the floor for discussion.
 - Treasurer Berry noted that University Health Services should be changed to the Center for Health and Wellbeing.
- No other discussion, so President Lusk closed discussion.
- Note about transfer to leave pool for those of you who may have the ability to donate to the leave pool. The deadline to donate leave is Friday, December 1.
- A midnight breakfast is planned for Friday, December 8 if anyone wants to join.

Upcoming meetings:

- 12/12 – General Body Meeting
- Happy New Year!
- 1/9 – General Body Meeting

Adjourn

Senator Culpepper made a motion to adjourn. Senator Herron seconded the motion to adjourn. All senators were in favor. The formal meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the Lumpkin Auditorium, Close-Hipp Building, 8th Floor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Hilson

Secretary
Staff Senate