

UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING
Mississippi/Illinois Room, Morris University Center
Zoom Meeting ID 945 0315 5890
November 2, 2023 – 9:00am
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:01 am on Thursday, November 2, 2023, by President Kelly Jo Hendricks.

Present: Kelly Jo Hendricks (President), Doug James (President-Elect), Keith Becherer (Past President), Angie White (Secretary), Andrey Ayers (ASRP Constituency Rep), Steven Green (CSOR Constituency Rep), John Caupert, Maria Ferrari, Amie Flatt, Mike Hamil, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Tiana Montgomery, Dusty Rhodes, Collin Van Meter, Michael Tadlock-Jackson (ex officio)

Absent: Cindy Cobetto (Treasurer), Denyse Anderson (CSNP Constituency Rep), Sara Colvin (ASNR Constituency Rep), Shane Kessinger, Trish Scheibal

Guests: Lauren Bartshe, Jennifer Albat, Cheryl Jordan, Jessica McCawley, Kim Monke, Jeanette Parmenter, Jill Smucker, Tim Staples, Brandon Stookey, Stephanie Stookey,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the October 5, 2023, meeting was approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Lauren Bartshe, Executive Director for the Chancellor, was the guest speaker. Lauren started in the Chancellor's Office on June 20, so she's nearing the five-month mark in her role. Lauren provided an overview of her day-to-day work, which is to operate with Vice Chancellors and Chancellor's Council, prioritize the Chancellor's strategic initiatives, works on legislative affairs, high level constituent visits, and improving the workflow internally. Her first impressions/observations: SIUE is a regional university that maximizes opportunities; we need to consider how to cross train or understand our roles better to serve students so there's not a lapse in coverage when someone is on vacation. Lauren spoke on the Curator of University Events position—which is in the process of hiring. This person will report directly to Lauren, and will work directly on high-level events, serve as Commencement Chair, formulate a University Speaker Series, manage BOT when we host, and assist with constituent visits. Staff Senate offered questions to Lauren, which included staff satisfaction concerns (Lauren will bring them up to the Chancellor), the future of CHAPA (no update given), and if future speeches from Chancellor Minor will be livestreamed for people unable to join in person (unsure).

NOMINATION:

There is a Senator vacancy for Administrative Staff Non-Represented. Dr. Tim Staples, Executive Director of the East St. Louis Center, gave a brief introduction which included his interest in serving on University Staff Senate. Dr. Staples' candidacy was approved by acclamation.

REPORTS:

President Kelly Jo Hendricks – Participated in Chief of Police search finalists. Congrats to NCERC for 20th anniversary celebration. Participated in various homecoming events. Student Government had their 65th anniversary. Wrote final letter to the Chancellor for recommendations for UPBC chair. Only three of 17 people interviewed were interested. There has been no appointment yet. Worked on a draft for a resolution regarding the open contract. Passing around a document for signatures for Collin Van Meter, who is running for re-election on SURS.

President-Elect Doug James – Continuing to fill up ad hoc committees. Still looking on someone to sit on UQC.

Past President Keith Becherer – Thank you to those who participated in the Wellness Walk, along with the homecoming activities. Update on Illinois House – doesn't look like anything will move through in the veto session. There will be a big push in the spring to address the inequities between tier 2 and tier 3 employees. There is traction to partner with other pension systems. Will continue to monitor this.

There were no other executive reports.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs search – bringing in a fifth candidate tomorrow.

School of Business Dean search – applications are preferred by November 3. Hope to have on-campus candidates November 30 – December 8.

Chief of Police search – no update.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management search – just kicking off.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Open Senator Positions – there are still several open senator positions in the following categories:

- Civil Service Open Range – 3 positions (2025/2027- 2)
- Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing – 1 position (2025)
- Alton Campus Senator (ALT CSNP/REP) – 1 position (2025)
- Alton School of Dental Medicine – 1 position

Please consider sending out targeted emails to those in these constituent groups.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our December 7 Staff Senate meeting conflicts with the BOT meeting in Carbondale. Kelly Jo will be driving to Carbondale to represent Staff Senate. After discussion, it was decided to keep Staff Senate on 12/7, move it up to 8:30 am, and refrain from having a guest speaker so that the meeting can adjourn early—allowing those who would like to watch the BOT meeting at 10 am to do so. Either President-Elect James or Past President Becherer will convene Staff Senate in Hendricks' absence.

There are several search committees starting up. The following people have been nominated to serve:

- **Dean of Library and Information Services** – Andrea Keller
- **Director of EOA/Title IX** – Mark “Doc” Dochterman
- **Vice Chancellor for University Advancement** – Hendricks submitted three names to the Chancellor's Office; the Chancellor will assign one of them to the committee.

These nominations were approved by acclamation by the Staff Senate.

An ad hoc committee began writing a resolution on behalf of the Staff Senate regarding the open contracts. The Senate had the Resolution first reading. Hendricks thanked those who were on the Zoom call last Friday. There are six open contracts. We are not addressing specific contracts; rather, we are asking for overall closing on contract negotiations. Edits will be shared via Teams. The Staff Senate tentatively approved the resolution, with amendments.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Committee Relations – down one member. Will meet on November 9. March 13 tentatively set for webinar.

Scholarship – Will approve spring scholarship amount at December SS meeting.

Fundraising – talked about profit shares.

Diversity Updates – no update.

Policy Review – reached out to Carl Chambers for our next meeting.

Staff Wellness – walk on both Edwardsville and East St. Louis campuses.

Elections Operation – no update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

State of the University Address, Nov. 2, 2pm, MUC Ballroom

Faculty/Staff Every Cougar Every Year Campaign - Every Cougar Every Year - SIUE Connect – consider including Staff Senate Scholarships in your giving:

Fund # 8715 – University Staff Senate Scholarship Endowment

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mike Hamil discussed how the Chief of Police search, along with other Vice Chancellor/Executive Director/Director searches have opted not to have open forums, but instead have invitation only candidate presentations. Perhaps staff morale wouldn't suffer as much if SIUE staff were given the opportunity to meet the new people in charge before they are hired.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock-Jackson, University Governance