Documents from the September 13, 2017 meeting of the University of Montana Staff Senate

University of Montana--Missoula. Staff Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/staffsenate_minutes

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation
University of Montana--Missoula. Staff Senate, "Documents from the September 13, 2017 meeting of the University of Montana Staff Senate" (2017). University of Montana Staff Senate Meeting Minutes. 14. https://scholarworks.umt.edu/staffsenate_minutes/14

This Meeting Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Montana Staff Senate at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Staff Senate Meeting Minutes by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.
SEPTEMBER AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

UC 332/333

I) Call to Order
II) Roll Call
III) Quorum Present
IV) Public Comment
V) UM Minute
VI) Approval of Minutes (# *August minutes)
VII) Presentation of Financial Statement (*Financial Statement)
VIII) Reports of Standing Committees
   1) Staff Senate Committee reports (*) – Committee chair liaison, VP Alford
      a) APASP ad hoc committee; reps from APASP regarding additional reviewers/report readers
      b) Survey ad hoc committee
      c) Professional Development Committee (PDC)
      d) Communications and Visibility Committee (CVC)
      e) Bylaws Committee
      f) Scholarship Committee
IX) Discussion
   1) Open seat; vote for new Senator by acclamation (Senator Baldwin)
X) New Business
   1) Budget cuts (Senator Burgad)
   2) Committee meetings
XI) Adjournment (#)

Notes:

(#) Designates that a vote is necessary.

(*) Designates that additional information has been distributed prior to the meeting, followed by a brief description of information.
Welcome & Call to Order
President Mangold called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Excused: Chiewphasa, Lyon, Wade

Quorum Present

Public Comment
- Toastmasters event coming up
- Faculty/Staff social on Friday hosted by GEO. Remember these are 4:30-6:30 in DHC Lounge
- Question: Status of Judy’s position?
  - We believe it has been signed off by A&F and sent to President’s Office
  - We will check with President’s office to see if they have received it and if it’s been sent to HR yet.

Approval of August Meeting Minutes

Financial Report
- Staff Senate budget has been cut 29.5% ($949) so the Executive Committee is looking at how our money is spent and what we will need to cut this year.
- The idea is to present a few options for budget this year. One large expense is MUSSA travel.
- Does purchasing SS shirts give money to SS? Yes, that goes into our budget.
- The fixed cost for Telephone & port charges will likely be changing. We don’t know how this cost will be distributed. This is a $390 cost. Maybe we should also quit this until we get a person in this position.
- Our total budget is just over $2300. This is general fund.
- The $1200 for the scholarship fund will go to scholarships. We had fewer applicants last year so we gave each one a nice award and then we left that extra in the account to carry over for next year. This $1200 has not yet been promised to anyone.
- Sen. Burgad may be working to simplify the Financial Statement
Reports of Standing Committees

APASP Report
- We received the data for the past 5 years. A large portion went to Judy's position and benefits. We've seen decreases in our budget every single year for the past 5 years.
- If you are interested in the Staff Senate APASP Report, Sen Mangold can make it available to you. There are 5 Senators working on it together.
- Due October 2
- Also note: APASP is calling for additional reviewers. The timeline and amount of work requires additional help. The team leader will be a Task Force member. Reviewers will be assigned to teams.

Survey ad-hoc committee:
- Have not yet met

Professional Development Committee:
- Working on setting the PDC direction for the year. The PDC has met and discussed the resolution that formed the PDC. We want to support the Strategic Vision, particularly related to Invest in People.
- The committee is discussing whether or not to pick up professional development work now that HR is no longer doing that. Our work will be to become a stronger voice to advocate for professional development, not to take on her work. Feedback is welcome.
- Csorosz says to advocate and not give up. It can backfire if it seems that staff has gone without and they want to keep it that way.
- Presidential candidates will be visiting campus and giving open forums. Let's ask about the vision and how they see the future of Invest in People. Ask what they might plan to do about it.
- In the past, Staff Senate has had meetings with the candidates. Is this something we can do again?
- We can start a Box folder for SS to submit questions for the candidates if you can't attend the open forums.
- We could all stand up behind a microphone together to show that we all support the importance of professional development. Or we could ask someone to stand up together. Or if Staff Senate all sat together to show our support. Senator Ramsdell will organize this effort.

Communications and Visibility Committee:
- CVC had a table at Welcome Feast to show students how staff are here to serve and help them
- Those staff featured at the table were very honored and pleased to be included.
- Next year we need something to lure students to the table, which seemed to get more attention from staff.
- Ideas for future Welcome Feasts can be sent to the CVC

Bylaws Committee:
- Have not met. Free speech policy is on hold. It is going through U-Approve to get University approval and then it will come back to shared governance.

Scholarship Committee:
- Traditionally starts meeting in February. Applications are due in March.

New Senator
- Becky Maier of GEO is going to fill the seat vacated by Senator Armstrong. She has been at UM 21 years and served on Staff Senate off and on for most of that time.
New Business
The Strategic Vision has been released and the SPCC has been working on operationalizing the vision. Does Staff Senate support moving forward with the University's vision?

- ASUM and Faculty Senate may not support it.
- Why did the faculty push back? There are things within the Vision that are prescriptive, rather than broad vision. APASP is the thing to make the decisions. The vision is the guiding principles, ethics, broad strokes. People need to logically split them instead of putting them together.
- With the Vision, has it been adopted and supported? Does it matter if we approve it?
- We have frustration with "action" being taken and yet nothing implemented. This has been very hard at UM, especially for staff.
- There's a vision of what we want campus to be, and then there's a plan of how to achieve that vision and then there's a way to see if it's accountable. This huge plan relates to all of campus but for staff, we want it to relate to the professional development component. We want a position budgeted. We want concrete action. This is part of the campus vision and we are entitled to it. We want to invest in human capital and the campus to be the best possible campus. If you're not investing in your people, you're moving backwards.
- This is our vision. Are we putting the cart before the horse? There could potentially be a new President or Provost.
- But if everybody at the University approves it, then the President needs to answer to it. If we don't support it, then that gives the new President more leeway to modify and change it. The document itself needs to be adaptable but not too specific.
- As Staff Senate, we have a limited amount of political capital, and everything we ask for spends a lot of capital. Do we want to expend our capital on this right now? This could backfire on us. Ramp up efforts for the resolution we already passed.
- Professional development seems to be the topic on everybody's mind in terms of staff. This is the time we need to hammer home to the new candidates that we support professional development.
- This plan is OUR plan. We were all able to be involved in creating this plan. Do we want someone to move in and change it? Is that the kind of President we want?
- Let's ask potential candidates this question. We created the vision together.
- We like that the strategic vision invests in people. We like that it's on paper and being pitched to candidates currently as what has been developed here. If they are applying for this job, they already understand that this is where we are coming from.
- It doesn't matter what the faculty or students do. Our political capital is spent however we want to spend it. If we like the Vision, we should vote for it. We don't have to support it, if we don't want to. That's what we should be voting on, not what someone might not hypothetically do in the future.
- A good leader listens. I hope that our Presidential candidates would listen to the entire campus. Also, I am so tired of waiting for that leader to show up. Let's stop saying "wait and see". The vision is a potential roadmap. It doesn't mean we can't take detour, but let's go in a direction.
- As someone who's been through Presidential changes at MSU-B, I feel that as others have said here, a good Presidential candidate will have studied our strategic plan and will address it in their public forum. If this plan was created by the entire campus, it's of value for this body to support it and say that is the direction this campus will go in.
- If we support just that one specific resolution for Professional Development, that allows us to put all our weight behind it. If one objective fails, then it shows the vision has no teeth.
- I'm interested in if Faculty & ASUM support the vision and our professional development resolution, because it puts more weight behind our resolution. This has been done typically in the past, banding together as all of shared governance. But this is not necessary. We like to combine our efforts and support one another.
• If we put our weight behind professional development and say we strongly support Invest in People, we might also help the other groups with their concerns with the Vision.
• This discussion is very helpful and instructive.
• Senators Laine, Domitrovich, and Bowling will create a resolution regarding the vision and bring it for the October meeting.

Budget Cuts/Financial Situation
• Presented MUS Budget
• Campus Level Staffing information (unrestricted only).
• Senator Burgad wants feedback about whether the Senate would appreciate more of this type of information. She will send the link of information to all Senators.

Invitation to Pre-game brunch:
• Please remember to RSVP, even if you can't make it.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35a.m.
NEXT MEETING: October 11