



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 8, 2023 - 10:00 AM - LC 200

I. Call to Order

Patrick Moore called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call – Graham Duncan, Samelia Abney, Mary Jo Carpenter, Jeff Constant, Laney Dixon, Brittany Tims, Gretchen Twigg, Katie Whatley, Matt Goldman, Dawn Lewis, Sam Pinchoff, Ebonee Dendy, Catherine Covar, Glen Crawford, Tavares Meadows, Patrick Moore, Ken Toole, Adam Weyer

Ex-officio: London Thomas or Kurstin Lacoste (HR), Jessica Puckett (DAC)

Guests - Newly Elected Senators: Donna Knight, Jeff Reynolds, Jamie Wilson, Matthew Moore, Awaili Thomas-Quarles, Taylor Haigler, Demario Watts, Brittany Brissey

III. Approval of Minutes from May Meeting

Katie Whatley motioned that the minutes from the May 2023 meeting be adopted; seconded by Ken Toole. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. Budget Report - Katie Whatley

Katie reported no change from the previous month. She mentioned that she and the Chair were looking into needs for Staff Senate for the following fiscal year in an effort to use the last portion of funding available.

V. Diversity Advisory Council - Jessica Puckett

Staff Senate and members of staff are encouraged to utilize resources available in Jackson Library related to diversity.

VI. Explanation of Nomination Process for 2023-2024 Officers

Patrick Moore explained the process for electing officers for the 2023-24 term of Staff Senate. A nomination form and ballot is to be distributed via Microsoft Teams at a later date. Patrick encouraged incoming and returning senators to study the bylaws regarding the officer positions. The positions are:

- a. Chair-Elect (must have completed one full term of Staff Senate to be eligible)
- b. Secretary
- c. Treasurer

VII. Committee Preferences

Patrick explained the process for notifying the Chair of committee preferences. Similar to the nomination of officers, a form is to be distributed via Microsoft Teams at a later date. Patrick encouraged incoming and returning senators to study the bylaws regarding the committees.

VIII. Year in Review - Veteran senators discuss the experience of serving on Staff Senate with new senators.

IX. Brainstorming for Year Ahead - New senators share ideas for what they'd like to see from Staff Senate.

At this time, veteran and incoming senators were asked to share their thoughts on the direction of staff senate, and what they hoped to see in terms of activities and initiatives going into the next term of staff senate. Veteran and incoming senators also took the time to introduce themselves to one another.

X. Adjournment

Matt Goldman motioned to adjourn; seconded by Ken Toole. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Staff Senate Mission Statement

The Lander University Staff Senate exists to enhance the welfare of its staff; to serve as a liaison between staff, administration, faculty, and students; and to advise the administration on matters concerning the staff. This focus provides staff a voice to promote a positive, respectful work environment that sustains both personal and professional growth. In support of the university's strategic plan, specifically the goal of remaining an employer of choice, the senate strives foremost to contribute to the overall success of Lander University and its students.