



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday August 12, 2021, 10:00 AM Lois Grier Room

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- I. Call to Order – meeting wide etiquette for MS Teams, and rules for speaking
- II. Roll Call – Anissa Lawrence, Graham Duncan, Erin Nodine, Jeff Constant, Katie Whatley, Jack Clinkscales, Brittany Timms, Courtney Carpenter, Gretchen Twigg, Mary Jo Carpenter, Matt Goldman, Sam Pinchoff, Ebonee Dendy, Catherine Covar, Glen Crawford, Marina Proctor, Patrick Moore, Ken Toole, Jessica Partlow
- III. Special Guest: Dr. Richard Cosentino
  - a. Staff Senate has been in place since 2017. He asked questions about who serves on Staff Senate and for how long. Gave us updates about the campus and enrollment.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from June meetings – Ken Toole and Erin Nodine made the motion to approve the minutes
- V. Chair Report
  - a. Human Resources-no report
  - b. Diversity Action Committee – Jessica Partlow
    - i. Utilize diversity resources
  - c. Upcoming Guests for Future Meetings
    - i. September 9 – Adam Taylor
    - ii. October 14 – Mike Worley
    - iii. November 11 – Stacie Bowie
- VI. Committee Reports
  - a. Employee Appreciation and Recognition
    - i. Birthday Cards – continue to be delivered
    - ii. Department Spotlight – Academic Affairs
    - iii. Remembrance Garden Dedication – Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, in front of Laura Lander Hall
      1. Recognize employees and Dr. Cosentino to speak. Reception to follow
  - b. Elections – worked on time line and better way to tally results. Only view the candidates allowed to vote for. Nominating people within your division and only voting for those within your division
  - c. Professional Development
    - i. Employee Assistance Tuition Program
      1. Asking faculty if there is any professional development to offer staff
    - ii. Possible Upcoming Events
  - d. Communications and Bylaws
    - i. Working on website. Update by-laws by next month
- VII. Old Business
  - a. Outdoor seating area between PEES and the Student Center/Cultural Center
    - i. New benches are coming!

### Staff Senate Mission Statement

The Lander University Staff Senate exists to ensure 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.

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- VIII. New Business
  - a. Move-in Days – need help from Staff Senate
  - b. Online Comments
    - i. The Summer Schedule is definitely a benefit to the employees. Looking into the next summer, the university should consider having Chic fil A or Which Wich open from 11-2. This allows employees to get food without leaving campus. With a 30 min lunch it's not feasible to leave campus, get food and return within that window. Not everyone does meal prep and door dash can get costly trying to do it daily. The dining hall is open but even during the school year not many employees eat in the dining hall.
      - 1. Not able to fund the cost of operating, but will continue to have dining hall open.
      - 2. Possible food trucks. Anissa will follow-up.
      - 3. Possible add options to Starbucks since they are operating during the summer. Anissa will follow-up.
  - c. Fees for taking online courses for employees
    - i. Employees responsible for course materials and anything specific to the courses or the program. University fees are waived.
  - d. Recap – tuition is free after employed for 6 months and the university will pay up to 6 credit hrs per semester.
  - e. Other Comments
    - i. Why is the white tape on the trees in front of Chipley Hall? They are there for the feasibility study.
  - f. New employees have been on emails being sent out. 2 new admissions counselors.
  - g. ID Card event for students
  - h. University is closed Monday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> for Labor Day.
- IX. Adjournment – Jeff Constant and Erin Nodine made the motion to adjourn

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