



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 13, 2025 - 10:00 AM ITS Conference Room

- I. Call to Order was promptly at 10 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Grant Stone, Buck Billings, Kenneth Roach, Anthony Lepore, Corey Anthony, Jake Lucas, Anna Crawford, Karen Petit, Pleshette Elmore, Wyatt McInerney, Talia Samard, Brittany Brissey, Kendra Rodgers

Excused absences: Perrin Rickenbaker, Anthony LePore
- III. **Administrative Guest Report:** Greg Allen, Police Chief, Lander University Police Department

Chief Allen detailed the numerous ways that the University police work to ensure campus safety and compliance. An annual safety report is filed by Oct. 1 annually and reports are made to the U.S. Department of Education. He encouraged Staff Senate members to make sure that everyone in their individual departments is signed up to receive the Lander Alert System for dangers on and around campus.

He reported that the University wants to add more cameras throughout campus, including the Jeff May Complex and Brookside and Centennial residence halls. The University also is exploring additional ID options and adding video cameras to residence halls that are currently without video systems. Active shooter training is expected to occur in January 2026. He affirmed that safety is a priority on campus and that security systems are being reviewed for the new nursing building and Information Commons.

The department also tries to “be in front of students” at events, such as open house and orientation sessions.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Wyatt to approve the minutes of the October meeting, with a second by Grant.
- V. **Chair Report:** Brittany Brissey thanked Staff Senate members for the success of the Fall Festival in October. She announced that Staff Senate and Faculty Senate will participate with in a food and toiletries drive between Dec. 2 and 12 for the Bear Necessities Food Pantry.
- VI. **Budget Update:** Kendra reported that Staff Senate had spent \$537.61 in expenses, which included the folios given to Staff Senate members. Expenses for the Fall Festival are estimated to be \$103.01. A cost projection for the Staff Excellence Awards in the spring is \$400.

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.

- VII. **Division Announcements:** 1) Academic Affairs – the Senior Art Exhibit will open in the Art Gallery; Open House will be held Saturday, Nov. 15; 2) Athletics – Games and playoffs continue as the fall sports season is coming to an end; 3) Procurement – Invoices are being submitted later than usual; 4) Enrollment and Access Management – Ryan Murdock, who served on Staff Senate, has resigned; 5) Marketing and Communications – Deb Crenshaw-Nygro is retiring; 6) Dean of Students – Housing applications are opening online; a Residence Hall event is happening on the Plaza, and recruitment for residence advisors is underway, and 7) The Holiday Spectacular will be Tuesday, Nov. 18.

Wayne reported that the fitness center would have a varied schedule over the holidays. The schedule will be posted on Instagram.

- VIII. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the business session and begin the executive session was made by Kenneth; Anna made a second to the motion.

Executive Session

- I. **Committee Updates:** The Professional Development Committee received 30 responses to their request for types of programs that should be considered for professional development for staff. They are gathering the information and will plan future events.
- II. **Chair Elect Voting:** The Staff Senate must vote to fill the Chair Elect position. Brittany said the person to be elected must have served on Staff Senate for six months. Staff Senate members will receive notification for the election and will vote by secret ballot virtually.
- III. **Communications Committee Chair:** With the departure of Ryan Murdock, Brittany announced that the Communications Committee will need a new chair. She asked committee members to consider a person to lead the committee and let her know their thoughts.
- IV. **Special Election Planning:** Staff Senate needs to fill the vacancy for Enrollment and Access Management. The person must be nominated, and the division will vote on the person Staff Senate.
- V. **Fall Festival Feedback:** Brittany thanked Staff Senate members for their participation and discussed plans for a second event, including the possibility of a pumpkin throw and a possible pumpkin carving contest. Staff enjoyed the pumpkin decorating contest and the food station. The judging for the pumpkin decorating contest will begin at 11:15 a.m.
- VI. **Bearcat Necessities Drive:** Brittany reported that non-perishable items and toiletries will be collected Dec. 2 – 12 by Faculty Senate and Staff Senate, with the possibility of boxes being located in Learning Center or Jackson Library.
- VII. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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