

**MASON STAFF SENATE**  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 3, 2015  
12:00 – 2:00 pm  
Fairfax, Research Hall 163

Approved  
8/5/15

Videoconferenced to Arlington, Founders Hall B119, Science and Technology, Bull Run 254  
Teleconference: 703-249-8067

Members: Andrew Addison, Wajaht Ahmed, Lisa Bair, Susan Brionez, Andrew Bunting, Rubi Chavez, Amanda Corrigan, Jocelyn Hanly, Jennifer Hamilton, Doug Hernandez, Joe Hinrichs, Amanda Kennedy, Megan Kirk, Marit Majeske, Dean Naldrett, Francina Osoria, Stephanie Payton, Lauren Reuscher, Emily Robinson, Nicole Roth, Brett Say, Amanda Shoemaker, Cloud Spurlock, Al Underwood, Alex Walsh, Stephanie Zeher

Absent: Andrew Bunting (with notice), Susan Brionez (with notice), Alex Walsh (with notice)

### **Guest Speakers**

Rita Rowand, Program Manager for Global Relations and Protocol in the Office of Global Strategy

Cheryl Welch, recipient of the Global Professional Staff Exchange to Korea

Business Meeting:

#### **1) Call to order**

- a) Call to order by Megan at 1:00pm.

#### **2) Constituents' Time**

#### **3) Announcements**

- a) From the Staff Senate
  - i) Brett Say
    - (1) July 31 last day at Mason. Moving to Michigan to pursue a PhD program in Higher Education.
    - (2) Charge to the Senate: Focus on addressing social equity versus financial equities. Based on area, we are compensated less, but Brett has more of an issue that the University is not necessarily seeing the value of staff. Staff are people with higher education, industry experience, and advanced degrees. Time we stop being seen as assistants or support staff. Call for an ideological change within the University.
  - ii) Stephanie Z. moving back to Registrars Office. Encourages staff to take advantage of time in exit interview with Supervisor and HR.
- b) Committee Meeting
  - i) Events Committee: TBD
- c) From the floor

#### **4) New Business**

- a) Approve May 2015 Meeting Minutes (attached)
  - i) Motioned, seconded, approved.
- b) Vote for Staff Senate Officers (Chair, Parliamentarian, and Treasurer)
  - i) Chair
    - (1) Nicole Roth
  - ii) Parliamentarian
    - (1) Candidate Statements

- (a) Al: Enjoyed being a senator and sees this as a tremendous opportunity to expand on his skills.
  - (b) Waj: Wouldn't take on if he would not be able to do a good job. Understands role and will do his best to fulfill his role.
- (2) Result of Parliamentary election is a tie and Chair will coordinate a runoff election.
- iii) Treasurer
  - (1) Rubi Chavez
- c) Volunteer for Recreation Committee to replace Marit
  - i) Meet once a month.
  - ii) Meetings are scheduled for beginning of the Academic Year
  - iii) Megan Kirk will replace Marit.

## 1) Old Business

- a) Staff Senate Bylaws
  - i) Resolution 2015-12: Ex Officio Admin Faculty
    - (1) Membership: Currently, administrative faculty do not have any representation on campus by faculty senate or staff senate. Lisa questions why the Staff Senate should represent administrative faculty. There may be conflicts of interest in what administrative faculty advocate for versus what classified staff and non-student wage advocate for. Why not establish an Administrative Faculty Senate? Brett encourages membership because if we are going to make changes we need a broader influence. One vote does not become ten.
    - (2) Voting Member: By being a voting member, the senator has the opportunity to participate on a deeper level and be more engaged. Joe suggests that the proposal be revised so that the administrative faculty member does not have a voting right. Waj suggests that we invite the administrative faculty member to the senate first and reassess whether they have voting rights.
    - (3) Appointed/Elected: Stephanie Z. questions the process of how the administrative faculty member would be elected or appointed. Would they be included in our election? If appointed, how would we determine who that candidate is? Megan responds that Staff Senate would solicit nominations from current senators. Staff Senate would appoint administrative faculty member by voting within the Staff Senate. Language needs to be fleshed out to include details of how we would appoint the administrative faculty member. Doug Hernandez was an active member of the Staff Senate but moved to an administrative faculty position. Megan would like to nominate Doug as the first candidate.
    - (4) "Four Levels Removed from the President": Megan included this language since this mirrors the culture that we represent. Cloud made the point that technically administrative faculty is reserved for positions only two levels removed from the President. The resolution would soon be obsolete or reduce the pool of eligible administrative faculty.
  - i) Staff Senate voted on proposal with current language
    - (1) 7=yes; 10=no; none abstain: Resolution 2015-12 Denied.

## 2) Roundtable

- a) Committee updates
  - i) Events Committee: Dates for Staff Appreciation: Fairfax is July 8, Arlington is July 15, Sci-Tech is July 16. Committee Chairs, please generate a question for Survey.
  - ii) Education and Outreach: Send forward suggestions and stories for newsletter and suggestions for "jazzing" it up (ie: Staff Highlight or Office Highlight). Please share with Lauren.
  - iii) Awards: Awards committee and Stephanie Z. met with Rita Rowand who gave us background about Global Professional Staff Exchange. Some confusion related to

committee that will oversee the process. Committee has been finalized to only include Awards Committee members who are not applying for the program, based on the language in the bylaws.

### 3) **Adjourn**

#### \*Meeting documents

5.6.15 Meeting Minutes Draft

2015 Officer Election Ballot

Resolution 2015-12

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 5 Time and Space TBD