

MASON STAFF SENATE

General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 3

10:30am-12:00pm

Fairfax: Merten 1201, Arlington: Founders Hall 720, Science and Technology: Colgan 221

703-249-8067

Members: Stephanie Atkins, Lisa Bair, Andrew Burroughs, Sean Cox, Christina DiCicco, Liam Dillon, Kathy Dodd, Christina Frasson, Jared Hagenow, Jennifer Gantt, Joshua Griset, Erin Iacangelo, Christopher Maier, Jenna McGwin, Pamela Ononiwu, Stacey Remick-Simkins, Lauren Reuscher, Lauren Reyna, Akitta Robertson, Tiffany Sandstrum, Brett Spencer, Michael Wharton, Preston Williams, Stacy Wilson, Joanne Zimmerman

Absent with Notice: Christina Frasson, Jared Hagenow, Lauren Reyna

Absent without Notice: Pamela Ononiwi

Guest Speaker: Patricia Coray, HRIS and Benefits Director in HR/Payroll, will lead a discussion on benefits available to Classified Staff and Non-Student Wage, specifically the new paid parental leave policy.

Business Meeting:

1. **Call to Order at 11:10am**
2. **Constituents' Time**
3. **Announcements**
 - a. From the Staff Senate
 - i. New Ventures Council – Update from Andrew
 1. Wiley Partnership: 465 students enrolled
 2. Advance Advisory Council, partnership between NOVA and Mason. Chris can invite up to 10 people. The event is at CFA on October 29 at 2pm. Governor Northam will be in attendance.
 3. Chris: NVCC Curriculum Concerns: NOVA curriculum not meeting Mason Standards. Since then, some courses have been removed from the NVCC website.
 - b. From the Floor – What's new that anyone is up to?
 - i. Mason Cat Coalition: Lauren organizes Mason A-Z website and found the Mason Cat Coalition. Stacy: Different feeders that volunteer to feed feral cats. They trap them as well, and get them veterinary care.
 - ii. Andrew: Registrar's Office Active Shooter Training by Mason Police. Some were told they would not be able to get out safely in the event of an active shooter. Would like to do something to provide more safety. Chris: Put in work order for planning committee to look at an escape route.
 - iii. Christina D.: Flu Shot Clinic-on all campuses. Scitech is October 16 Colgan Hall 110E; 11am-1pm, Arlington is at Founders Hall 313 on October 18

2:30-4:30, and Fairfax is on October 30, 10am-3pm in Dewberry. Flyer will be sent out, and it will also be included in the Staff Senate Newsletter.

- iv. DMV To-Go is next Tuesday, 9am-4pm in the Merten Hall parking lot. Parking and Transportation organizes, but HR advertises. Jennifer: Arlington does not have a need for that since there is a location convenient to the Arlington campus.
- v. Stacey: 20th Anniversary of the Fall for the Book. Bringing John Lewis to campus to talk about Civil Rights. Visit fallforthebook.org for more information.

4. Committee Updates

- a. Awards: OSA Update
 - i. Finished reviewing OSA award candidates. We had 21 candidates. Will visit supervisors October 8-11. Outstanding Achievement Awards are scheduled on November 15. Chris will be presenting the OSA to the supervisors.
- b. Education and Outreach Meeting: October 17; 2:30pm
 - i. Analytics Data collection continues. We may re-address what day we send the newsletter.
- c. Events Committee Meeting: October 8; 1:00 pm
 - i. Discuss staff appreciation events and the holiday events.
- d. Holiday Theme Team-no date has been planned for a first meeting.

5. New Business

- a. Approve previous Meeting Minutes from September
 - i. Motioned, Seconded, Approved
- b. Attendance Policy Review
 - i. Let Administrative Assistant know in advance if you will not be in attendance. Please email Amanda in addition to rejecting the calendar invite.
- c. FY19 Budget Update – Jennifer Gantt
 - i. Allocated similarly but a better reflection of current spending.
 - ii. Motioned, Seconded, Approved
- d. Update from the Chair
 - i. VGEA Town Hall - Update from Stacey Remick-Simkins
 - 1. VGEA is coming with two lobbyist for a joint event with the Staff Senate in late October. VGEA legislative priorities and strategies. Stacey will get a list of appropriation committee members for the Senate.
 - 2. Tentatively planned on October 31; 1-2:30pm.
 - ii. WebEx – Staff Senate Streaming Meetings
 - iii. WebEx – Sending Staff Senators to different departments for each General Meeting to connect with Staff and participate remotely
 - 1. Traveling Rotations to Different Departments-assist in signing in constituents to WebEx at their work stations. Lisa, Sean, Stacey are interested in volunteering.
 - a. Chris: Motion to have an ad-hoc committee with Stacey, Lisa, Sean, Amanda, Chris.
 - i. Motioned, Seconded, Approved
 - iv. Student-Legislative Process Question
 - 1. Student contacted Jenna about the legislative process within the Staff Senate. Jenna responded saying we are charted through the President/Provost/Senior Vice Presidents' office. We are an advisory

body not a governance body. Talked about our 3 missions and that we are guided by our constitution and bylaws. I also asked what sparked her interest in our group. She responded that her reason for her interest is a campus wide initiative to make Mason the first university in Virginia to become a conflict-free campus. Chris thinks she is referring to the Republic of the Congo mining operations controlled by quasi-terrorists that do not treat locals of that area very well. We are waiting on an official response.

v. Massage Therapy Benefits

1. Wrote a memo of philosophy of massage and secured new benefits for Mason staff, faculty, and students. October is National Massage Therapy month. Chris who is also a licensed massage therapist reached out to about 8 spa and massage businesses. We had a couple of companies respond with discounts. Lauren: Heard that if you have COVACare you are eligible for massages to be covered by insurance if the company accepts the insurance. Chris: Some insurances will reimburse you for a massage or accept a prescription. Some businesses are not equipped to handle insurance. Jenna: Kaiser covers acupuncture as a form of treatment. The memo and lists of discounts available will appear in the Staff Senate October Newsletter.
- e. ListServ: As of August, we had 3349 employees in August. As of last week, we had 3192. We lost about 150 people. Joanne: A wage position can be a temporary position which may account for a percentage of the drop in employees.

6. Old Business

- a. Staff Appreciation Event Survey
 - i. No further updates.
- b. Everyday Patriots
 - i. Will discuss at the next Education and Outreach meeting.
- c. Mini Survey QWL
 - i. Owe HR an update.

7. Adjourn at 12:03pm

*Meeting documents.13002952

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September Meeting Minutes

Attendance Policy

FY19 Budget

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 ; 10:30am-12:00pm, Locations: Fairfax: Merten Hall 1201, Arlington; Founders Hall B119, Science and Technology: Colgan Hall 221, Smithsonian: Academic 219