

**MASON STAFF SENATE**  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 6, 2017  
10:30am-12:00pm

Fairfax: Merten Hall 1201, Arlington: Founders Hall B119, SciTech: Colgan Hall 221  
703-249-8067

Members: Stephanie Atkins, Lisa Bair, Susan Brionez, Andrew Burroughs, Amanda Corrigan, Sean Cox, Kathy Dodd, Eric Fowler, Christina Frasson, Jared Hagenow, Jennifer Gantt, Erin Iacangelo, Amanda Kennedy, Megan Kirk, Ann Moran, Jenna McGwin, Christopher Maier, Lindsey Olson, Lauren Reuscher, Carl Redmon, Akitta Robertson, Tiffany Sandstrum, Brett Spencer, Michael Wharton, Preston Williams, and Joanne Zimmerman

Absent with Notice: Kathy Dodd, Megan Kirk, Michael Wharton

Absent without Notice: Jared Hagenow

**Guest Speaker(s): Shernita Parker, Pat Donini, Linda Harber and Laura Titkemeyer (11:00am-12:00pm)**

Shernita Parker and Laura Titkemeyer will facilitate a discussion for the senate that looks at, "When Things Work Well, It Looks Like.....".

**Business Meeting:**

**1) Call to Order at 10:32**

**2) Constituents' Time**

- a. 2 Constituent
- b. Mason Lobbies: January 31. Annual event coordinated by Student Government. Travel to Richmond in buses and lobby for state funds. Mason gets less funding per student than any other university in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Lobbying priority increase faculty and staff compensation and reduce rising tuition costs. They do a Google interest form that they are having people fill out to gauge interest. Reaching out to organizations on campus to ask what they should be lobbying for in Richmond. Smaller numbers this year due to less physical space at the Capitol due to construction.
- c. Charity Basketball Game: Faculty vs Students. Looking for volunteers to play basketball.

**3) Committee Updates**

- a. Awards
  - i. Employee of the Month presentation went well.
- b. Education and Outreach
  - i. Met on Friday and have been going over the website and making some changes. Also, we were able to get Google analytics hooked up to the site so we will be able to gather some data.

- ii. Stephanie: We had a few people signed up to shadow in January and February. We will open up to the senate in March. Please contact Stephanie if you would like to sign up.
- c. Events
  - i. Toy and Food Drive: Sign up Genius
    - 1. Toy and Food Drive now through December 19. Need two more volunteers from 1:30-2:00pm.

#### 4) Announcements

- a. From the Staff Senate
  - i. Upcoming Maternity/Paternity leave
    - 1. Jenna due in May
    - 2. Christina due in June
    - 3. Amanda due in May
    - 4. Chris' wife due in April
- b. From the Floor
  - i. Chris: How do we move forward and which issues do we want to proceed with, Canon? Keep in mind, treating others with civility. Christina: Part of becoming a senator. You want to make a positive impact. Lisa: Has been a senator a long time and has seen the senate in many different lights and the light we are in now is completely different. Everyone is engaged and the senate is going in a terrific direction. Sean: The idea of a civility pledge is intriguing. Does Mason have a creed or a values statement? Sean went to Auburn University and the freshman, staff, and faculty learn the creed as soon as they walk in. Chris: We do have a value statement. Christina and Amanda sent out the core value statements and mission and links from the website on Spark (<https://vision.gmu.edu/the-mason-vision/our-goal/> and <http://info.gmu.edu/aboutus.html>). Maybe we need to look at it to make sure it is fresh and meaningful. Sean: Make sure it is personal and what are the key values that we want to have beyond diversity. Jenna: When we meet with Canon, we should provide potential solutions. Their chain of communication is not ideal, which is frustrating to many people. Lisa: Is Canon not above our heads? Why is the Staff Senate involved when it needs to be resolved at an administrative level? Chris: We are working with Marc Fournier and Buz Grover on a set of questions that were submitted by constituents and senators. Jenna: This impacts staff, and I think we could make an impact. Lindsey: Open our meeting to other interested participants and have one big meeting. Chris: Will set up a meeting next week with Buz Grover and Canon.
    - 1. Canon Subcommittee Interest: Jenna, Lindsey, Stephanie and Brett

#### 5) New Business

- a. Approve September 2017, October 2017, and November 2017 Meeting Minutes
  - i. Motioned, Seconded, Approved for September, October, and November
- b. Update from the Chair
  - i. New Venture Advisory Council
    - 1. Andrew Burroughs brought this to the attention of the Senate and will be sitting on the committee. Michelle Marks is heading up with this committee. This new committee will be looking at some of the programs that are coming into the university (ie: Wiley online programs, venture with NOVA, and the degree completion with ODU).
  - ii. State Budget
    - 1. On December 18, the Governor will be announcing the state budget for next year. On December 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, JJ will give a regurgitated summary of that budget and its impact to Mason.
  - iii. Pay-To-Smash
    - 1. With the Robinson demolition and rebuild, we have opportunities to make money on new construction like beam signing and purchasing bricks for the building and on the plaza. We don't have anything to make money off of the demolition. Jenna and her group in CHSS came up with the idea of a pay to smash. We are looking into logistics. Asbestos concerns so the building would need to be emptied of that before we could do anything like this. Demolition is planned for about a year from now. Working with the Faculty Senate and GMU Fund. Looking to raise \$275-\$350 million for the GMU Fund to pay for 12 credits for staff, faculty, and their dependents' tuition. Also looking to raise 2 million to expand CDC to have an infant wing. The 2 million seems like a more appropriate place to start.

**6) Old Business**

**7) Adjourn at 11:58**

**8) \*Meeting documents**

September Meeting Minutes

October Meeting Minutes

November Meeting Minutes

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 7, 2017; 10:30am-12:00pm, Locations:

Fairfax: Merten Hall 1201, Arlington: Founders Hall 720, SciTech: Colgan Hall 221.