

MASON STAFF SENATE

General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 6

10:30am-12:00pm

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

WebEx: Meeting number (access code): 648 314 965, Meeting password: 2ktMam99; 1-240-454-0879

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

Absent with Notice: Sean Cox, Jennifer Gantt, and Akitta Robertson

Absent without Notice: Joanne Zimmerman

Guest Speaker: The March Staff Senate meeting will feature guest speaker Shernita Rochelle Parker, interim vice president, HR/Payroll and Faculty/Staff Life, and director, Organizational Development, Learning, and Coaching. Shernita will discuss the results of Mason's recent Quality of Work Life Survey.

30 constituents online; 13 constituents present in person

Business Meeting:

1. **Call to Order at 11:08am**
2. **Constituents' Time**
 - a. Patriot Tech/Bookstore Update from Barbara Headley and Ashley Ludwig
3. **Announcements**
 - a. From the Staff Senate
 - i. Stacey: Met with VGEA last weekend. Members of VGEA met with the appropriations committee. The governor has not signed the budget yet, but there was very little debate, so it looks promising. Included in the budget is a 2.75 percent raise across the board. An additional 2.25 percent raise is included for those who have been here 3 years or more. The bonus in December was removed. School teachers received a 5 percent raise. Faculty received a 3 percent raise. The budget will be signed early April. Raises would go into effect in June. We have a turnover problem in Virginia-we are losing more staff then we can replace. They agreed to do the JLARK report every year versus every decade. Lauren: Is faculty included in the 3+ years of service raise? Stacey: No, that is only classified staff. Stacey: Next strategy is to introduce new programs like debt forgiveness that will help staff. Kathy: When is the cutoff date for three years of service? Liam: June 10th if it is like the previous legislation. Amanda: How will the calculation of the raise be handled? Will the additional 3+ years of service raise be calculated after the 2.75 has been included in the salary? Stacey: Not sure at this point, but would most likely be calculated in that way.

- ii. Christina D.: Friday, April 5 is take your kids to work day. Bring school age children. There will be fun sessions about healthy relationships, tours of campus, and special events. We will also include in our newsletter.

- b. From the Floor

4. Committee Updates

- a. Awards

- i. Brett presented the March Employee of the Month: Lisa Joyner from the Dean's Office, College of Health and Human Services. Thank you, Brett!

- b. Education and Outreach

- i. April Guest Speaker?

- 1. Options would be Advance and/or Michelle Marks, Cathy/Construction (Core Campus Project), State Government Relations/Mark Smith..
Jenna: Who would be good for an Advocacy 101 session? Chris: Paul Liberty would be good to lead a formal advocacy training. We do not have anything like that here at Mason as it stands. Stacey: S-CAR would be good to look at for advocacy training as well.

- ii. Social Media Update

- 1. Looking for Senator Takeovers for April, May, June, and July
 - a. Please let us know. Chris would be interested in April.

- c. Events Committee

- i. Winter Event Update

- 1. Staff Appreciation Attendance
 - a. Overall average attendance.
 - i. Fairfax: 212
 - ii. Arlington: 72
 - iii. SciTech: 18
- 2. Got a lot of good feedback and received a few emails.

5. New Business

- a. Approve previous Meeting Minutes from February

- i. Motioned, Seconded, Approved

- b. Update from the Chair

- c. Committee Updates

- i. Seeking Dining, Recreation, and Parking Appeals committee members.

- ii. What committees are you currently sitting on for the Senate?

- 1. Book Scholarship: Stephanie Atkins: This is a summer thing so nothing is going on right now. She usually receives an e-mail toward the end of June. They typically meet once, and we decide on who is going to be selected.
- 2. Dining Committee: Christina D.: The dining committee meets each month. The robots have been a huge success. They are trying to add more spaces for places to deliver. Stacy Wilson will serve in place of Lauren Reyna.
- 3. Green Patriots: Student led.
- 4. Quality of Work Life: Stacey was one of the first members and has been serving on this committee for 19 years.
- 5. Recreation Committee: Chris is serving on the committee. Brett will attend in Chris' place tomorrow. Seems more like a student group but

will examine its content and make a decision of whether to continue in this committee.

6. Employee of the Month: Akitta Robinson
7. Mason Lobbies: We will address this committee later.
8. Parking and Transportation/Parking Ticket Appeals: Stephanie will serve in Lisa's place
9. Campus Smoking Policy-Do not meet anymore. Christina D. is currently serving on two other campus committees to be a smoke free campus.
10. Community Policing Committee: Carl Rowan: First working meeting to put the basics on paper is today. He would like the Staff Senate involved. Basic goal is to let people know what we are doing, how we are doing, and why we are doing it.

6. Old Business

- a. Holiday Break Time Shift
 - i. We are going to ask JMU what they think of working on Labor Day to allow a longer Thanksgiving break. They are going to talk to us about how to start a Staff Senate. The meeting will be held 11am-12:30pm tomorrow. Anyone is free to call in to the meeting. Kathy wants to be included in the call.
- b. WebEx Traveling Senators Ad Hoc Committee-on hold until April
- c. Staff Study Leave of Absence
- d. Get to know one another, Senators Event

7. Adjourn at 12:00pm

*Meeting documents

February Meeting Minutes

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 3, 219 ; 10:30am-12:00pm, Locations: Fairfax: **Research Hall 163**, Arlington; Founders Hall B119, Science and Technology: Colgan Hall 221, Smithsonian: Academic 219