

MASON STAFF SENATE
General Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, October 1, 2014
12:00 – 2:00 pm

Fairfax, Research Hall 163
Videoconferenced to Arlington, Founders Hall B119, Prince William, Bull Run 254
Teleconference: 703-249-8067

Present: Andrew Addison, Wajaht Ahmed, Lisa Bair, Susan Brionez, Lauren Clark, Amanda Corrigan, Jocelyn Hanly, Laura Harrison, Joe Hinrichs, Amanda Kennedy, Megan Kirk, Marit Majeske, Francina Osoria, Emily Robinson, Nicole Roth, Brett Say, Cloud Spurlock, Al Underwood, Alex Walsh, Stephanie Zeher

Absent: Rubi Chavez (with notice), Andrew Bunting (with notice), Amanda Shoemaker (with notice), Jennifer Hamilton (with notice), Lindsey Lowenberg (with notice), Stephanie Payton (with notice), Doug Hernandez (without notice), Dean Naldrett (without notice).

Guest Speakers:

J. J. Davis, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance will discuss the university's current budget. (12:00 - 12:30)

Josh Cantor, Director, Parking and Transportation, will discuss the current status and the initiatives in Parking and Transportation. (12:30 - 1:00)

Business Meeting:

- 1) Call to order @12:00, pause for speakers at 12:09, business meeting resumed @ 1:20
- 2) Constituents' Time--none
- 3) Announcements
 - a) From the Staff Senate
 - i) Congratulations to Lisa Bair, October Employee of the Month
 - b) Committee Meetings
 - i) Executive Committee
(1) Wednesday, October 22, 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Merten Hall 3300
 - c) From the floor
 - i) Administrative Matters:
(1) Meeting requests sent from Outlook include information and/or documents pertinent to meeting
- 4) Old Business
 - a) Approve September 2014 meeting minutes (attached)

- i) No substantive changes
 - ii) Motioned, seconded, approved
 - b) Review October financial statement
 - i) Proposed revised budget with 3% reduction
 - ii) Not sure where we stand in regard to these changes
 - iii) Financial statement pending until above is clarified
 - c) Staff Senate Confidentiality Statements
 - i) Please sign and return to KBB
 - d) Outstanding Supervisor Award Update
 - i) Will be announced at November meeting
 - e) University Advisory Committees
 - i) Reporting Protocol
 - (1) Each committee member should either report or have a proxy report
 - ii) Committee Openings
 - (1) Recreation—Megan Kirk, Marit
 - (2) Police Advisory—Waj Ahmed, Stephanie Z, Alex Walsh
 - (3) Policy 1103 Review—if still in existence? Susan Brionez potential
 - (4) Mason Lobbies—Laura Harrison, Francina Osorio
- 1) New Business
 - a) SS Constitution and Bylaws Updates
 - i) Changes to reflect actual practices or allow flexibility
 - (1) Resolution 2015-2 through 2015-4
 - ii) Changes to reflect actual practices or allow flexibility
 - (1) Resolutions 2015-5 through 2015-11
 - iii) Will be voted on at November Staff Senate General Meeting
 - (1) Intro today, discussion and voting next month
 - (2) FYI, a set of typographical issues (phrasing consistency, font changes, etc) is pending
 - (3) Brett Say had some phrasing recommendation, will email to Kathrin
 - b) Administrative Advocacy Initiative—Discussion lead by Brett Say
 - i) As we advocate for Mason staff across all departments/organizations, we can tend to forget to advocate for our own organization (i.e. the Senate)
 - ii) We have grown larger and accomplished great things in the last few years. We have also grown more diverse in our membership. In order to continue that kind of growth and success, we need to make sure that we continue to actively recruiting individuals who represent a broad range of Mason employees and organizations.
 - iii) With that in mind, Brett would like to propose the formation of an ad hoc committee (name TBD) to research and actively recruit senators and senate collaborators.
 - iv) The key purpose of this committee will be to create a formal recruiting process for the Senate to identify potential collaborations within the university. This process can then be used by the Staff Senate to identify members of the Mason community who closely share the missions/values of the Senate.

- c) Discounts/Payment Plans for Mason Staff on Campus Purchases—Tabled
 - i) HR will be here in December to discuss available discounts

2) Roundtable

- a) Dining Committee Report from Susan
 - i) The Globe
 - (1) Dishwashing system broken
- b) Tuition issue raised by constituent
 - i) Graduate students/staff with tuition waiver, if over \$5250 waived, will be taxed either with October 30 paycheck or spread over a few pay periods.
 - ii) Only the amount over \$5250 is taxed
 - iii) Have not received numbers for fall
 - iv) Issue will be assessed.
 - v) Question: who initiated this: IRS rule from the 1980's. Came to the attention of HR that they need to comply.
 - vi) Lots of room for SS to get engaged.
 - vii) The \$5250 figure comes from 1980s rule. Current amount does not reflect current cost of tuition.
 - viii) Where can staff read up on this? IRS Pub 970, chapter 11
 - ix) Ad hoc committee could be formed around this.
 - x) Some institutions have exemptions to help pay for this. Ad hoc committee, could work with faculty and HR to see how this would look like. Research into other institutions would be a part of this committee.

3) Adjourned @ 1:43 pm.

Meeting documents

- 9.3.14 Meeting Minutes
- October Financial Statement
- Resolutions 2015-2 through 2015-11

Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, November 5
- 12:00 - 2:00 pm
- Fairfax, Research 163; Arlington, Founders B119; and Prince William, Bull Run 254. Teleconference: 703-249-8067