**Mason Staff Senate**

APPROVED 8.2.2016

General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

12:00pm-2:00pm

Fairfax, Merten Hall 1201; SciTech, Bull Run Hall 254; Arlington, Founders Hall 119B;

703-249-8067

Members: Wajaht Ahmed, Stephanie Atkins, Lisa Bair, Susan Brionez, Andrew Bunting, Cameron Carter, Rubi Chavez, Jocelyn Hanly, Barbara Hill, Amanda Kennedy, Megan Kirk, Christopher Maier, Marit Majeske, Lindsey Olson, Francina Osoria, Lauren Reuscher, Emily Robinson, Nicole Roth, Dan Silver, Cloud Spurlock, Al Underwood, Alex Walsh, Katara Wright

**Absent with Notice:** Amanda Kennedy**,** Lauren Reuscher, Alex Walsh, Katara Wright

**Guest Speaker**

* **Mark Smith, Director, State Government Relations** gave an update from Richmond
* **Zac Pope, Director of University Life Safety and Emergency Management** discuessed updates from Environmental Health and Safety

**Business Meeting:**

1. **Call to order**
2. **Constituents’ Time**
	1. Mason Cultural Tours-Rita Rowand
	2. Parking Concern-Nina Joshi
		1. High costs of parking impacting people financially. ODU will prorate parking based on salary. Inherently something wrong with the fact that someone who makes $35,000 should pay the same as someone making $135,000. Nicole: Someone has to pay the difference. Cameron: Hampton Roads cost of living is lower. Research more local examples. Lisa: Mirrored from military structure.
3. **Announcements**
	1. From the Staff Senate
	2. Committee Meetings
		1. Events Meeting: Thursday, June 2 at 12pm
	3. From the floor
		1. Dan: Family Matters Survey
			1. Brief summary of Family Matters Survey. Miscommunication about benefits and leave for staff; lack of understanding and available information. Wendi and Janet would be happy to speak at an upcoming meeting regarding benefits (ie: maternity leave and how to nominate an employee for employee of the month).
4. **New Business**
	1. Approve May 2016 Meeting Minutes
		1. Motioned, Seconded, Approved
	2. Sizzlin’ Summer Social
		1. Fairfax, Sub 1, Patriots Lounge: July 13, 2016, 10:00am-12:00pm
		2. Science and Technology, Bull Run Atrium: July 19, 2016, 10:30am-12:00pm
		3. Arlington, Patio/Outdoors (rain plan: Multipurpose Room): July 21, 2016 (combining with Arlington Summer Social), 12:30-2:00
			1. Will help with costs and not split attendance between the two events on that campus.
		4. Singup Genius: Link will be sent out with a call for volunteers to help with Staff Appreciation Events after Thursday, June 2.
	3. Staff Senate Officer Elections: Vice Chair
		1. Megan Kirk will serve as Vice Chair for another term. Congratulations on your re-election!
	4. Staff Senate Walking Wednesday-June 8 at 12:00
		1. Nicole hosting Walking Wednesday—30 minute walk.
	5. Robinson Meeting Groups
		1. All about creating your story. Group of architects and facilitator between staff, faculty, and students. Broke into groups. Lots of extravagant ideas thrown around. Cameron volunteered to attend the Workplace Group. If you would like to attend let Nicole know. Important that staff have a voice.
		2. Wellness Workshop, June 8, 9am-12pm
		3. Workplace/Community, Friday June 10; 9am-12pm
	6. Update from the Chair
		1. Potluck in August at Retreat. Encouraged to bring sides and dessert. Nicole will provide the entrée.
5. **Old Business**
	1. Advocacy Committee
		1. Researched other Staff Senates at four Virginia colleges: UVA, Virginia Tech, William and Mary, and VCU. Found similar models to what we want to do with our ad-hoc advocacy committee. Nicole’s husband brought home a graduation program from Virginia Tech. Staff are on the stage as a representation of the success of their student body. Staff representatives on the Board of Trustee/Board of Visitors at other colleges. Would like to establish an advocacy committee first so that we can bring up the most pressing issues to these larger groups. Nothing is on paper yet. Please reflect on this and think of some points for August. Dan: Suggests having an Advocacy committee that is a triage of spreading out what the advocacy needs are rather than having an advocacy committee stuck talking about topics that no one cares about in that particular room. For instance, being the ones who are searching for the issues and saying we need someone to attend this meeting. Nicole: Agrees that everyone should be accountable and invested in the success of the committee and resolving the issue. We will not be adding another committee. It will be an ad hoc committee and we will re-evaluate its success next year. Cloud: Should have something in writing for the ad hoc committee and the goals for the committee (ie: UVA sets measurable targets for progress in their description). Also, important to name and identify specific bodies on campus where we will serve as a liaison, so there would also have to be buy-in from those bodies. For example, being as specific as we can, such as, President’s Office, Human Resources, etc.
	2. Columbus Day/Indigenous People Day
		1. Will send an email update.
	3. Staff Senate Senator Election-Reminder to send forward nominations and VOTE!
		1. Nomination Period: Monday, June 13 through Friday, June 24, 5:00 pm
		2. Elections: Monday, July 11 through Friday, July 22, 5:00 pm
6. **Rountable**

**Adjourn at 1:58pm**

\*Meeting documents

May Meeting Minutes

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 3 (Merten Hall 1201; SciTech, Bull Run Hall 254; Arlington, Founders Hall 119B; 703-249-8067)