

Staff Senate Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2022
9am -10am (Pintler)

Attendees:

Casey Vanatta	Jenna Snow	Marcia Lubick	Kinsley Rafish
Cassandra Welsh	Kathy Stevens	Mike Haldane	Jeremiah Strand
Debbie Luft	Nathan Quinn	Sarie Nicholls	

New Business

Staff Senators meeting with Dr. Cook monthly

Jenna reported on their meeting with Dr. Cook. The Chancellor is not fond of the forum idea, instead suggested “beer and chips” once a month. Dr. Cook is in support of doing a gift card to the campus store to celebrate staff completing their 6-month probation period. He was also in support of the staff appreciation celebration to take place in May with a BBQ on Thursday in the courtyard and cornhole in the LLC parking lot on Friday evening.

Pat on the Back

The Awards Committee met to discuss changing the wording of the Pat on the Back so people will know who can be nominated. Other items were also considered as it is now required to submit the name of the person doing the nominating as well as the person nominated. The full details of the changes can be found at:

[Pat on the Back \(mtech.edu\)](http://mtech.edu)

Since there have been many faculty awards, the Staff Senate is seeking permission to create a “Green and Copper” Award. Names of the Pat on the Back awards from April 2, 2021, and April 1, 2022, would be entered into a drawing with 3 names chosen to receive 3 very nice place awards. The following will coordinate meeting with department meetings to explain.

- a. February – Physical Facilities – Casey
- b. March – ACE/Enrollment Services – Jenna
- c. April – Highlands – Kinsley
- d. May - Career Services – Mike
- e. June – IEO/Health Sciences

Mentor with a Senator

Jenna and Marcia reported how their experience went with Craig Elliot, Jill Yoder, and Kelly Prystajko at their lunch. They reported that it went well and was very positive. The participants liked the onboarding folder and the packet. Inserting their business card into the folders for new hires to contact was mentioned.

Jeremiah reported that the person, Luke Schuler, that he was supposed to go to lunch with disappeared. No one is quite sure what happened.

Staff Senate Email

President will send formal email communications to staff members

Will be designation for scholarship applications (no longer to Casey)
All staff senate will be able to reply to emails
Create “common verbiage” to keep responses professional
Create sample emails (scholarship reminders, events, etc.)

Staff Senate Forum

Dr. Cook did not like the idea of a Staff Senate Forum. He suggested instead activities like the “Meet and Greet” or “Beer & Chips” on the first Friday of each month with different hosts. In order for the event to use state funds, it must contain a learning component. In planning an event, we should ask ourselves, “Why would we go?”

Staff Appreciation Week

The Chancellor liked this idea and offered to maybe pay for a family BBQ. Since Commencement is May 7, 2022, a tentative date could be May 13. The events Committee, Kinsley, Sarie, Casandra, and Debbie will meet to discuss the Staff Appreciation Week. Others interested should let the Committee know.

Budget Report

Balances:

State - \$749.73

Chancellor Foundation - \$286.74

Staff Senate Fund Foundation - \$360.50

Pam Hogart Scholarship - \$8,584.47

Senate Governance

ByLaws updated 1.31.22 – Please proofread by March 1, 2022

Ask the Senate

None

Scholarship:

Discussion about raising the amount awarded to applicants from the current \$250.00.

Discussion about keep saving to get the fund into an endowment.

Report Outs

Leadership Team Updates

Professional Development (LEAD) Updates – considering spring training with staff

Faculty Senate Updates

ASMT Updates – provided feedback to Awards Committee

MUSSA Updates: From MUSSA:

Recipients of the Regents' Award of Excellence in University Citizenship shall be selected by the Commissioner of Higher Education based on their contributions to the MUS that go beyond the regular expectations of their positions. The award will be given to a staff member who is deemed to have made substantial contributions to the well-being of their community, campus, and the MUS without

expectation of remuneration or reward. Nominators are required to describe how the nominee meets the award criteria (300-word maximum) and submit a picture of the individual (JPEG or PNG). Nominees should include classified staff and contract professionals only. Presidents, vice presidents, provosts and deans are not eligible to receive this award.

We'll take up to two nominations from each MUS institution and vote in an upcoming MUSSA meeting. I

We have decided to submit our winners from our two awards – “Above and Beyond Award for Staff” and “Outstanding Staff Award”, nominated by students.

Staff Senate Moodle Course

<https://moodlemtch.mrooms3.net/course/view.php?id=29180>

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 1 @ 9:00 AM