

FHSU STAFF SENATE

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2020
Zoom Meeting-1:30pm

- I. President Jennifer Whitmer called the meeting to order at 1:33pm
- II. Roll Call of Members
 - a) **Present** – Jennifer Whitmer, Pam Groff, Staci DeWild, Falynn Rogers, Liz Atwater, Diana Staab, Debbie Allen, Bob Duffy, Lisa Lang, Lacey Wegner, Jenna Niblock, Stephanie Johnson, Lisa Morgan, Jan Schmidtberger,
 - b) **Absent**: Mark Grieve, Donna Augustine, Nicole Frank
 - c) **Guests**: Kevin Splichal, Amy Gregg, Karen Pfeifer, Brittney Squire
- III. Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Lisa Lang and seconded by Bob Duffy to approve the meeting minutes from September 8, 2020. The motion was carried.
- IV. Treasurers Report: \$1007.90 in the foundation account for scholarships as of September 2020.
- V. Social Report: nothing to report
- VI. Orientation Report: 8/9/20-9/5/20
 - a) No longer with FHSU: Steven Meier, Allen Rohr, Linda Garner, Brittnei Day, Derek Deatherage
 - b) New to FHSU (includes promotions or job changes): Noelle Husmann, Gregory Atkins, Philip Billinger, Sharon Tallman, Susan Penka, Kevin Karlin, Lynne Pryor, Melanie McDonough, Randall Adkins, Tonya Bickle, Zachary Young, Shawn Hammersmidt, Santana Dechant
- VII. Cabinet Update: Jennifer reported:
 - a) ELT & CIPG is happy with the low COVID numbers
 - b) Foundation Journey campaign continues and close to goal. They are having a faculty and staff drive through cinnamon roll appreciation instead of their regular luncheon. It is scheduled for October 22nd from 730-10am. Check your email and tigerdaily for more info
 - c) Enrollment numbers are better than expected, but is down for the first time in 19 years. 20th day numbers are: down 825 students, down 2.8% SCH, and 80% retention; there will be a total of 19 8-week courses that will hopefully help make up some of the deficit
 - d) Facilities Update: center for student success is about 2 weeks behind but they are starting roofing and framing is almost done; Rarick demo is still going well; Akers Energy design is on schedule
 - e) Academic Affairs: December commencement will be a virtual only event; spring courses will be the same as fall (tol, toc, hybrid); all China classes are currently all online
 - f) Admin & Finance: Mike Barnett talked about the 15% budget cut rumor. He said it isn't true and until the 20th day report comes out we won't know anything official. We are preparing for a cut of some sort but don't have any details yet, so conversations with ELT and directors are just sort of starting
 - g) Athletics: winter sports TBD and spring schedules are still continuing to be modified
- VIII. Old Business- none

IX. New business

- a) USSC Conference Call – Lisa Lang reported:
 - i. Discussion of USS identity and how that can be relayed to KBOR.
 - ii. School Updates:
 - 1. ESU-Has begun a USS Senate Scholarship
 - 2. KU-Few layoffs, Buyouts that were implemented earlier this year will not fill positions for 1 year
 - 3. KSU-Fall commencement will be in person, isolated layoffs, Administrative furloughs
 - 4. PSU-Virtual commencement in November, no layoffs
 - 5. WSU-Working to combine USS and UPS senates, no layoffs or furloughs at this time
 - iii. Asked for names of USS employees to serve on the survey committee for the next survey. Possible topics for the survey include morale, salary/benefits, job titles.
 - iv. Will have a joint meeting with UPS employees this fall.

- b) UPS Conference Call- Jennifer Whitmer reported:
 - i. School Updates:
 - 1. KBOR cancelled all in-person school visits
 - 2. Emporia: conducting COVID surveillance testing; record breaking retention this year for the 3rd year in a row; partnering with HR to do more recognition with unclassified employees; they are sending a quarterly report to all staff regarding their updates, benefits and other info
 - 3. KU: down 2.8% for enrollment; redesign of university structure is coming soon
 - 4. Kstate had no update to report
 - 5. Pitt State: COVID numbers among students have begun to decline while the impact to employees is on the rise; athletics announced 5 game football schedule; they have a Senior Diversity Officer that is relocating from Academic Affairs to Student Affairs and are continuing to monitor the national/regional/local events that will potentially impact their campus/community; in process of conducting campus climate survey on diversity, equity and inclusion
 - 6. Wichita State: Awaiting to see what KBOR announces regarding their Interim President and timeline for permanent president; their UP and USS senates have reengaged in conversations to merge senates and want to have a vote by early spring semester
 - 1. UPS KBOR September Report
 - a. UPS Council Chair presented to KBOR and no questions were asked
 - ii. November 4th from 9-11 is joint meeting with USS and UPS
 - iii. Reviewing and comparing KBOR School tuition benefits for Employees, dependents and spouses
 - iv. FHSU is in charge of a sub-committee for the next satisfaction survey since FHSU is the host school next year. Planning to have first meeting in November.
 - 1. Stephanie Johnson is interested on being on the committee.

- c) Revising By-laws – will discuss more at next meeting

X. Miscellaneous:

- a) Suggested a possible sub-committee to put together goals the staff senate wants to accomplish over next 2-3 years. (Rachel Harman, Liz Atwater, Nicole Frank, Stephanie Johnson interested).
- b) Open discussion regarding concerns, issues, communication gaps and other issues.
 - i) Spring Semester and Spring break
 - ii) Missing the joy of working on campus due to disconnection and isolation
 - iii) Suggest maybe another Town Hall
- c) Health Insurance open Enrollment
- d) Spring Senate Meetings
 - i) November- Zoom and Black and Gold Room
 - ii) December- Zoom and Ballroom
 - iii) Remaining Spring- Zoom and Pioneer Room can hold up to 8 people in person
- e) Coffee with Jill, open to anyone October 21, 8-9 am

XI. Next Meeting November 10, 2020 Zoom and Black and Gold Room-1:30pm

XII. Adjournment: A motion was made by Bob Duffy and seconded by Lacey Wegner to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 PM. The motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Liz Atwater
University Staff Senate Secretary