



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

Staff Senate Agenda

June 13, 2018

Gamble Hall Room 145

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Members Present: (Pending)

Members Absent: (Pending)

Ex-Officio Present: Pat Hanson

Guests: Nikkie Dvorak, Tiffany Ford, Steven Light, Kate Menzies, Jed Shivers

1. Call to Order – President Tyler Clauson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Guests – Interim Dean Steven Light and College of Business and Public Administration Staff Council members – Light introduced the Staff Council concept, a vehicle and mechanism for advocacy and shared governance. Nikkie Dvorak, CoBPA, gave an overview of the process and results and introduced mission statement and objectives. CoBPA Staff Council members Kate Menzies, Tiffany Ford, and Carissa Green also participated. They invited and encouraged collaboration between other units' staff groups and Staff Senate.

Patricia Reed reported Chester Fritz Library has a Staff Association and is starting a Town Hall group.

3. Announcements/Question Period

- Andria Spaeth announced Staff Senate and Workwell/Wellness Center intramural volleyball starting next week. Please promote to your units. More teams/individuals are needed.
- Jed Shivers, new Vice President for Finance and Operations, introduced himself and expressed his appreciation for interest in the Staff Senate and working together.

4. Approval of May 9, 2018 Staff Senate Minutes – Corrections: Add Kristin Ellwanger, Andria Spaeth to list of attendees. Minutes approved as corrected (*Lesli Risky/Whitney Maine/carried unanimously*).

5. Business Items

- a. The Constitution, Bylaws and Elections Committee brings forward Carla Spokely for membership to Staff Senate to fulfill a 1 year term.** Clauson reported for Pam Shea (*Carried unanimously*). Two open spots are still available. These are one-year terms through May 2019.
- b. Election of 3 Member at Large positions** - Melissa Casanova nominates Laura Vatnsdal; Garrett Grasser nominates Chris Dingle; Megan Wasylow nominates Whitney Maine; Lori Schafer nominates June Novacek; Carissa Green nominates Janelle McGarry;

Jessica Cadreau (self-nomination). Separate votes were taken for each of the three positions. Results by position:

1. Janelle McGarry
2. Whitney Maine
3. Chris Dingle

- c. **Newly developed Staff Senate Vision** – thank you to all Senators who provided input towards the vision!
 - i. **To be the roots for all UND Staff** – This vision statement came out of small group sessions with consultant Emily Holth.
 - d. **Group up into committees and a brief overview of duties and when committees meet.** Chairs led a short discussion and strategy session.
- 6. Officer Reports** - as needed
- **Jeremy Malheim** – Requested Chairs please invite him to the first committee meeting of the year, so he can learn processes and activities and meet everybody.
 - A New Staff Senate Committee Listserv is now in place.
- 7. Staff Senate Committee Reports**
- **Public Relations** – Chair Megan Wasylow reported Facebook page has 54 new page likes since May 1. Spread the word within your units. Make it a daily check-in. Committee Chairs should send her their meeting times. Monthly newsletter launches July. Please donate candy for parade in September.
 - **Staff and Professional Development** – Chair Jade Gourneau met with Shea, Clauson, and Malheim to review Seeds grants for the May 15 period.
- 8. University Committee Reports - as needed.** None were given.
- 9. Suggestion Box**
- a. Have the option to not use all your vacation/sick time during pregnancy and be able to take leave without pay. The current FMLA is 12 weeks but in order to use that you have to drain your vacation and sick leave. Which leaves you with 0 when you come back. How do you take that time off to go to appointments with kids when you are at a 0 balance upon return? My suggestion is that you should be able to at least keep 40 hours of each as an option if you want.
 - i. This is NDUS policy that is currently being discussed further at a system level. - *many agree this should be allowed.*
 - b. Feature stories regularly about the staff at the University of North Dakota from all Departments in University press. Their work is so incredibly vital to "making the University go-round" and there would be no learning teaching or research without the folks who are in Dining Facilities etc. who set the stage for everything to happen. I am incredibly grateful to all of those folks and would really like to see their work featured regularly like the stories on learning teaching athletics.
 - i. We started "I've been caught by Staff Senate," where every Wednesday, a picture of a staff member is posted with some information about the staffer. Right now these are featured on the UND Staff Senate Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/UNDStaffSenate>. We are working on starting a monthly Newsletter (will be sent on Staff Chat), hopefully launching in July; where we will also highlight the staff that we "caught." We just revamped our Mission Statement: "To advocate for staff by supporting engagement, development, and recognition through

shared governance and collaboration;” we are really focusing on the three main words of “engagement, development, and recognition” for staff on our Facebook page, and in the Newsletter. We have been posting daily on the Facebook page, hoping to help staff feel welcomed to events, get recognized, start some staff mingling, networking opportunities, information on Grand Forks & construction, and development opportunities. I encourage you and your fellow staff to check it out, and keep posted for the UND Staff Member that will be caught today!

10. Matters Arising/Open Discussion

- a. **July Potluck** – Watch for sign-up sheet to be circulated via email. There will be an option to contribute toward a catering order. Wasylow brought catering carry-out menus to share. Jed Shivers will be invited to speak, and Alice Brekke will be invited for a farewell presentation.

- b. **Follow-up on letter to the State Board** - Clauson reported that the State Staff Senate did vote to send a letter to the State Board of Higher Education expressing staff concerns. Clauson and Lisa Earls presented it to President Kennedy, for his information, before it was made official. It was noted that the State Staff Senate meeting minutes should include which campuses voted for and against the letter.

11. Adjourn – With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Next Staff Senate Meeting
July 11, 2018 - 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
Wellness Center Room 120/121