



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

Staff Senate Minutes

May 8, 2019

Facilities Lunchroom

Members Present: Daniel Boese, Jessica Cadreau, Melissa Casanova, Tyler Clauson (Past-President), Paula Cox, Chris Dingle, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Kristin Ellwanger, Garrett Grasser, Carissa Green, Angela Holkesvig, Devona Janousek, Gregory Kelly, Sherry Lawdermilt, Melissa Mager, Whitney Maine (Vice President/President-elect), Jeremy Mahlheim (President), Janelle McGarry, Christina Mead, June Novacek, Tyler O'Hara, Tonya Parton, Brian Schill, Jill Schroeder, Peggy Schultz, Carla Spokely, Zauna Synnott, Laura Vatnsdal, and Megan Wasylow

Members Absent: Trinity Bohlman, Christopher Choate, Jade Gourneau, Kari Holter, Jamey Holweger, Brian Larson, Jennifer Lunde, Jennifer Lynch Hurst, Amy Malheim, Lani Moen, Tina Monette, Patricia Reed, Jayson Sharp, Conrad Smith, Andria Spaeth, Michael Ullrich, and Kim Werner

Ex-Officio Present: Peggy Varberg, Associate Vice President for Human Resources and Payroll Services

Guests: Angie Morgan, EERC, and Alma Pierce, Student Success/Associate Vice Provost

- 1. Call to Order** – Outgoing President Clauson called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.
- 2. Refreshments & Introductions of Senators** – Everyone introduced themselves, and officers and committee chairs gave an overview of their roles. A group photo will be scheduled for the next meeting, which is earlier than tradition. Clauson announced that Megan Wasylow was honored with a Meritorious Service award at the recent Staff Recognition event, and Angie Holkesvig was the April UShine winner.
- 3. Thanks to Outgoing Senators** – Expressions of gratitude given to those Senators whose terms are expiring. Also of note, Holkesvig announced she is retiring from UND and will be resigning her position as Staff Recognition Committee Chair.
- 4. Gavel Pass** – Clauson “passed the gavel” to incoming President Jeremy Malheim, noting that Malheim took over some Past-President roles, especially leading the Bylaws and Elections Committee, during his President-Elect year. Malheim presented a ceremonial gavel to Clauson in recognition of his service as President and thanked him on behalf of all.
- 5. Announcements/Question Period** – Volunteers for the Spring commencement ceremonies are still needed. Information given about how to volunteer.
- 6. Approval of April 10, 2019 Staff Senate Minutes** – Minutes were approved as submitted (Wasylow/Cadreau/carried unanimously).

7. Officer Reports

- a. **Secretary** – Green announced she would like to step down from the role of Secretary for the next Staff Senate program year. She described the responsibilities and leadership opportunities and asked Senators who are interested to consider.

8. Staff Senate & University Committee Reports

- a. **Public Relations** – Wasylow gave an overview of Public Relations Committee and how it relates to the other Staff Senate committees. She particularly stressed the Facebook page as a welcoming environment for all, with engagement from Senators as a particularly important element. The next goal is to get 1,000 followers.

9. Suggestion Box – Two suggestion box items received after the agenda went to press were presented.

- a. **Campus Planning** – *Will College of Business & Public Administration be taking over parts of Merrifield as well as Montgomery Halls?* Senator and Facilities Associate Director of Construction Management Brian Larson will answer at the next meeting.
- b. **Paid Holidays** – *Thank you for the Christmas Eve holiday. Will there be an opportunity to get July 5, 2019, as an official state holiday?* The Christmas Eve holiday was initiated by the Governor, likely because the date fell on a Monday. The State Staff Senate had been working on the “Family Friday” initiative (Friday after Thanksgiving) prior to that, but was not successful. Malheim said he wished to take up the Family Friday question again and lobby for it, but the July 5 date was likely too near to be successful.

10. Business Items

- a. **Senate Expectations** – Reviewed meeting and committee attendance, participation, and event volunteerism. A survey to indicate desired committee placements will be circulated via e-mail soon.
- b. **Officer Vote continued from April** – No nominations were received for the Secretary role. Green will continue until a replacement can be found.
- c. **Senators at Large explanation** – The Senator at Large positions for the Executive Committee were described. Nominations were sought, and three votes taken, one to fill each position. Elected were: Dingle, Mead, and Boese.

Standing Committee Chairs also serve on Executive Committee. A brief overview of each committee’s work was given, and Chairs for the upcoming year were announced or determined:

- **Community Relations** – Tubs of Love, Denim Days, Meals on Wheels: Holter and Novacek, Co-chairs.
- **Legislative** – During the 2019-2020 program year, the legislature does not meet, so this committee will be in mostly a strategizing mode: O’Hara, Chair.
- **Public Relations** – Newsletter, Facebook page, approving flyers, displays at events, branding, Staff Senate e-mail: Wasylow, Chair.
- **Staff and Professional Development** – Seeds for Staff Success, Leadership Series: Gourneau, Chair.
- **Staff Recognition Committee** – State Employees Recognition Week, Spring Fling, UShine: Chair position open.
- **Engagement/Fundraising** – Staff Takeovers, sports leagues, other activities: Casanova and Vatsndal, Co-chairs.

- d. **Website for updates on Campus Renewal, Construction & Moves** – <http://blogs.und.edu/campus-renewal/> : Senators are encouraged to disseminate widely.
- e. **July Potluck** – announcement for July potluck. Business meeting will be minimal.

11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion

- Executive Committee seeks feedback about this location or alternate suggestions, as a permanent site for next year's meetings is determined.
- Currently, there are three openings on Staff Senate. Please recruit if you have interested co-workers.

12. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Next Staff Senate Meeting:
May 12, 2019
Time and Date TBA