



Staff Senate Minutes
October 9, 2019
Nursing 210

Members Present: Dan Boese, Melissa Cassanova, Tyler Clauson, Paula Cox, Chris Dingle, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Kristin Ellwanger, Jade Gourneau, Carissa Green, Brenda Haugen, Jamey Holweger, Brian Larson, Jennifer Lunde, Melissa Mager, Whitney Maine (President), Christina Mead, Tina Monette, June Novacek, Brian Schill, Jayson Sharp, Andria Spaeth, Carla Spokely, Zauna Synnott, Michael Ullrich, Laura Vatnsdal, Megan Wasylow (Vice President/President Elect)

Members Absent: Trinity Bohlman, Jessica Cadreau, Garrett Grasser, Kari Holter, Devona Janousek, Gregory, Kelly, Sherry Lawdermilt, Jennifer Lynch Hurst, Janelle, McGarry, Lani Moen, Tyler O'Hara, Tonya Parton, Jill Schroeder, Peggy Schulz, Kim Werner

Ex-Officio Present: Melissa Arnold on behalf of Peggy Varberg

Guests: President Wynne, Kyle Marquart and Brittany Rew

- 1. Call to Order** – Maine called the meeting to order at 3:07 pm, quorum was met.
- 2. Staff Photo** – This took place prior to the meeting being called to order.
- 3. Guest Speaker: - President Wynne** – President Wynne shared reflections on his time as interim president over the last 4 months, talked about the 7 goals of the strategic plan, said the university is better financially and more robust and will continue to move forward. Some questions were asked of President Wynne. Do you have any good ideas to incentivize for all colleges to work together? President Wynne has charged VP of Finance Jed Shivers with the task to demystify the elements of the MYRA model for people to better understand and see what needs to be tweaked or changed to make it better. Question about improving moral on campus as it relates to the day after Thanksgiving. President Wynne is working on this. Mentioned that we should be looking to the future and not in the past. In regards to State Employee Recognition Week, Sr. leadership was low. President Wynne said he is trying to meet with as many groups or colleges as possible. Went to the longest table sat with 10 people never met before and 2 were UND students. Great opportunity to talk about Grand Forks and how to make it better. We are trying to be better financially with things like the day after Thanksgiving off, and merit raises which most of us did not see for a few years. Agrees that we need to show that the institution cares about people and make them feel valued and important and fulfilled in their jobs. Can people from the president's office go out on campus and visit with other departments? President Wynne thanked us for this suggestion and will make more of an effort to bump into more people. President Wynne was thanked for his time and comments. Whitney Maine mentioned that she does serve on the University Senate and the President's cabinet and if we have other issues or concerns, she can bring them up there.

4. **Approval of minutes from August 14, 2019 Staff Senate Meeting** – Jayson Sharp made a motion to approve the August 14, 2019 minutes, Jamey Holweger 2nd the motion, the motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of minutes from September 18, 2019 Staff Senate Meeting – Megan Wasylow made a motion to approve the September 18, 2019 minutes, June Novacek 2nd the motion, the motion was carried unanimously.

5. **Officer and Committee Reports**

- a. **Constitution, Bylaws & Elections** – Kyle Marquart has applied to be a senator will submit nomination next senate meeting. Brittany Rew from the College of Engineering and Mines may be interested.
- b. **Engagement**
 - i. **November Bingo** – Look for this in the first couple of weeks in November.
- c. **Staff Recognition** – Ushine for August winner is Jason Marsh was awarded on October 8th. We need more nominations. Maybe add to staffchat. Encourage others to submit nominations. We are still trying to get caught up.
- d. **Community Relations** –
 - I. **October 4 Special Denim Day** was for the American Red Cross.
 - II. **Special Denim Day** – We are now accepting applications for 2020. Applications are due by November 15, 2019.
- e. **Staff and Professional Development**
 - i. Updates are coming soon.
- f. **Public Relations** – Did not walk in the parade as it was cancelled. What to do with the extra candy? If you want your candy back, see Chris Mead after the meeting or pick up by October 31. Need storage space for raffle roller machine. Laura said they may have totes going on surplus soon. Looking for storage space.
- g. **Legislative** – Brian Schill stepped in for Tyler, In the newsletter, they are requesting ideas about university policy. Brian handed out sheets and they could be anything from parking, wages, maternity leave, etc. You can turn in the sheets here or email them in.

6. **Business Items**

- a. **31 Days of Glory**
 - i. Ticket Sales – We have Jill Schroeder who will be overseeing this. We have only 381 tickets left out of 600 to sell. Asked if possible to put in some of the Hugo's stores. Yes, we will get posters. We will also send out the email again.
 - ii. Tubs of Love – When does it start? We need a flyer for this. When does the collection start?
- b. **NDSSS**
 - i. Whitney is serving and will provide feedback when she can.
- c. **Suggestion box**

- i. FMLA and Leave Balances This is not to request extra paid leave. This is to take unpaid leave and save your paid leave for appointments after return. Some feel that it is not good to go to supervisor to get a unpaid leave request form filled out all the time when you need to attend necessary appointments. This has been requested for specifically maternity leave and some ask what are the boundaries? Cancer and other illness appointments not just for new moms. Is it possible to work other schedules. Maybe not stick to a formal 8:00 – 4:30 model? Can we work different hours? This may depend on the department you work in.
- ii. Traffic on 2nd Ave with Union construction and parking ramp. Whitney has not heard anything new on this. More to come.
- iii. Posting the Staff Senate meeting minutes to the website. Dan and Megan have worked on this and we now have the minutes and agenda's posted to our website. Dan said they were approved this morning.
- iv. Presidential Search. Has been determined who will receive phone interviews, and the finalists being picked after this. The candidates will be here November 12-19, 2019. Whitney Maine urged all senators to attend these sessions.

7. Matters Arising/Open Discussion –

- a) Megan Wasylow announced the Recycling and Green decisions meeting at Rhombus Guys. There is a charge of maybe \$10 but you do receive 2 drinks.
- b) October 17th is the Lunch and Learn from 11:30 – 1 at the Center for Innovation, not October 19th as previously mentioned.
- c) Chamber Business After Hours – Choice Financial on October 17th.
- d) Welcome back Melissa! New system for ordering name tags, so she is trying to work this out.
- e) Next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2019 in Nursing 210. Paula will be gone so Carla Spokely will take minutes.

8. Adjournment –Adjourned at 4:012 pm.

Next Staff Senate Meeting:
November 6, 2019 – 3:00-4:30 PM
Nursing 210