



Staff Senate Minutes
September 9, 2020
Via Zoom
3-4:30 pm

Members Present: Daniel Boese, Tyler Clauson, Paula Cox, Chris Dingle, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Jordan Eberhardt, Kristin Ellwanger, Monica Evavold, Jade Gourneau, Brenda Haugen, Sarah Heitkamp, Kari Holter, Brian Larson, Melissa Mager, Kyle Markwardt, Christina Mead, Cheryl Misialek, Cindy Murphy, June Novacek, Tyler O'Hara, Jennifer Proulx, Brian Schill (Vice President/President elect), Julie Simon, Eric Souvannasacd, Andria Spaeth, Carla Spokely, Zauna Synnott, Laura Vatnsdal, Megan Wasylow (President), Cathy Westerhausen

Members Absent: Melissa Casanova, Carissa Green, Jamey Holweger, Devona Janousek, Lisa Moore, Peggy Schulz, Jayson Sharp, Michael Ullrich

Ex-Officio Present: Becca Jacobson

Guests: President Andrew Armacost, Zachary Aubol, Cara Halgren, Jed Shivers, Melanie Linder, Mike Wozniak, Lynette Geatz

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm.
2. **Announcements** – President Armacost says Thank you for the hard work. Huge spike in covid-19 cases in the beginning with a peak at about 330 cases and now we are roughly at about 80 cases. Everyone keep safe.
3. **Introductions** – Lightning round, we had some good sharing.
4. **Guest Speaker:** Mike Wozniak. Some new employees are looking at ways to meet new people around campus. Possible engagement or Facebook groups. Sent out a survey and received great feedback. Will send out a more in-depth survey. Please fill out and send back.
5. **Approve minutes from August 12, 2020 Staff Senate Meeting** – Monica Evavold made a motion to approve the minutes, Kyle Markqardt second the motion, Paula Cox abstains, motion carries.
6. **Officer Reports**
 - a. Vice President: **Brian Schill** – Final draft of the Annual report was sent out to senators. If no feedback, will be sent on to President Armacost.
 - b. Historian: **Dan Boese** – Changed Denim Spirit Days to Jeans Give Back on the website. Please check to see if any other changes need to be made and let Dan know.
 - c. Membership: **Melissa Casanova** – Not present. All rooms have been cancelled will be Zoom meetings only until December or January.
 - d. Secretary: **Paula Cox** – No reports. Thank you, Brian and Emily for all your help while I was out.
 - e. Treasurer: **Devona Janousek** – No present. No updaes.

- f. Member at Large: **Chris Dingle** – Will be getting the 31 Days of Glory together soon. **Peggy Schulz** – not present. Brenda Haugen present. Megan Wasylow added. A lot of the things that the officers do is behind the scenes. Thank you to all chairs as well.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Community Relations: **Kari Holter & June Novacek** – No date yet for next meeting in October. Will pick non-profits for 21-22 year. Next special Jeans Give Back is for the UND Mortar Board.
- b. (Past President) Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections: **Tyler Clauson** – Nothing really to report. In the last executive meeting, pay attention to the current bylaws if any changes are needed, make a note and let's talk about them. Similar for the website please review.
- c. Engagement: **Emily Dougherty & Paula Cox** – Our first meeting is Friday, September 11 from 11-12. Will discuss monthly meeting dates and add to yearly calendar. Anyone is welcome to join our meeting. Looking at the Bylaws and will report if we see any changes.
- d. Legislative: **Kyle Markwardt & Brian Schill** – Met this week. Will meet 2nd Friday monthly from 10-11. Survey out today for ideas to look at. Looking at the Bylaws. Take the survey. Thank you to Brian for creating the survey. Thanks goes back to Dan.
- e. Public Relations: **Brenda Haugen & Cristina Mead** – Behind on newsletters. Getting a head start on October. Would like to send by the end of September. Did get the banners. Group is meeting tomorrow. Could use some help with Facebook and the website. No names submitted for Caughts. Please send names. Did you know for employees, please send to Brenda. We had a small discussion on what Caughts and did you know are.
- f. Staff & Professional Development: **Zauna Synnott** – Awarded Seeds for Staff Success for August.
- g. Staff Recognition: **Andria Spaeth** – Working on getting all the State Employee Recognition Week events approved. Waiting on approval for Wilkerson. Emails will go out early next week and making sure we have space. Walk up and drive up options. Meeting with the Engagement committee tomorrow. Looking for some plain tables. Kari mentioned that she has some tables if needed.

8. University Committee Reports – No reports.

9. Staff Senate President Report – **Megan Wasylow**

- a. Pandemic Briefing Meeting/NDUS Task Force: Wash hands, wear face coverings, social distancing, get tested. These are all ways to keep the numbers down. Thank you to all on the Pandemic team and all they do and for all the hard work. Keeping transparent is important. If you have any questions, please send on to the pandemic team, or through town hall meetings and suggestion box. Less testing means less numbers. Keep getting re-tested. The state is also looking at a new testing option that does not involve swabs. Looking at a possible vaccine early spring possible. Our campus is further along than other campuses. Being transparent is key to all this.
- b. ND State Staff Senate: Did not meet, no report.
- c. University Senate: Kyle and Brian will serve and they equal one vote. The bookstore has hired some staff. Meet with President Armacost monthly. If you have anything to bring up to him, let Megan know. The administration is encouraging the book study in TTDa. Can still sign up.
- d. Suggestion Box: Water pooling in front of McCannel – They are aware of it. They are working on trying to fix the issue.

10. Business Items

- a. Vote for Staff Senate Meeting date change: Move from November 11 (Holiday) to November 4 – Brian Schill moved to vote, Brenda Haugen 2nd the motion, Megan Wasylow sent link to Qualtrics survey to vote. Motion carries.
- b. Temporary Membership Officer: Dates will be from November – December. Paula Cox self-nominated. Motion to appoint Paula as the Temporary Membership Officer made by Emily Dougherty, 2nd by June Novacek, Megan Wasylow sent out a Qualtrics to vote and motion carries.

Chris Dingle asking if there are any official Potato Bowl update – Cara Halgren says there should be information released soon and Potato Bowl official website says “all events cancelled”. Tyler Clauson says the Potato Bowl game is postponed until Spring.

Conflict of Interest: Need 2 staff to serve. Do we need a vote? Gather interest. Chris Dingle said he would be interested, but if he is handling 31 Days of Glory, he would need to pull out. Chris Mead would be happy to be involved. Paula Cox mentioned that if Chris Dingle could not do it, she would help out. Try to get more clarity on when and how often they meet.

11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion – Business After Hours at the Alerus Center on September 17th, is a great way to socialize and meet new people. The Young Professionals are still meeting. We have full access to all these groups.

12. Adjourn – Brian Schill made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Andria Spaeth 2nd the motion, motion carries and meeting adjourned at 4:11pm.

Next Staff Senate Meeting

October 14, 2020 – 3-4:30 PM

Zoom