



Staff Senate Minutes
October 14, 2020
Via Zoom
3-4:30 pm

Members Present: Dan Boese, Tyler Clauson (Past President), Paula Cox, Chris Dingle, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Jordan Eberhardt, Kristin Ellwanger, Monica Evavold, Carissa Green, Brenda Haugen, Sarah Heitkamp, Kari Holter, Jamey Holweger, Devona Janousek, Brian Larson, Melissa Mager, Kyle Markwardt, Cheryl Misialek, Lisa Moore, Jennifer Proulx, Brian Schill (Vice President/President Elect), Julie Simon, Andria Spaeth, Zauna Synnott, Laura Vatnsdal, Megan Wasylow (President), and Cathy Westerhausen

Members Absent: Melissa Casanova, Jade Gourneau, Christina Mead, Cindy Murphy, June Novacek, Peggy Schulz, Jayson Sharp, Eric Souvannasacd, Carla Spokely, and Michael Ullrich.

Ex-Officio Present: Peggy Varberg

Guests: United Way: Pam Shea, Cara Halgren, Cassie Gerhardt, Jed Shivers, Zach Aubol, Heidi Flaten, Darin Buri, Andrea Bures, and Lynnette Goetz

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm.
2. **Announcements** – None.
3. **Guest Speakers** –
 - a. Pam Shea for United Way – Super-Hero Challenge. President Armacost was slimed. Please be generous.
 - b. Cara Halgren and Cassie Gerhardt for the Angel Fund – Looking for additional funding. Helps students. Thank you to all who have given. This was launched in April 2020. Have given \$163,075 to 241 students. Still have a lot of requests coming in.
 - c. Jed Shivers on the upcoming Legislative Session – Waiting to see how health care costs come in, but the requested amount is \$660.5 million for the biennium.
4. **Introductions:** Lightening round/ favorite thing about Fall
5. **Approve minutes from September 9, 2020 Staff Senate Meeting** – Kari Holter moved to approve the minutes, Kristen Ellwanger 2nd the motion, no discussion, motion carried unanimously.
6. **Officer Reports**
 - a. Vice President: **Brian Schill** – December potluck. Should we have a virtual potluck, yes or no?
 - b. Historian: **Dan Boese** – Updates on website continue. We can add flyers for events to add more pop to the site.
 - c. Membership: **Melissa Casanova (Paula Cox temporary)** – No new updates.
 - d. Secretary: **Paula Cox** – No new updates.

- e. Treasurer: **Devona Janousek** – If you have any questions about the budget, let me know.
- f. Member at Large: **Chris Dingle** – 31 days of Glory is posted and ready for sales. Can purchase online at the Staff Senate website. Thank you to Devona for her help. **Peggy Schulz** – not present.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Community Relations: **Kari Holter & June Novacek** – Working on meeting for the 2021 non-profits. Thank you, Dan with the website updates.
- b. (Past President) Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections: **Tyler Clauson** – Met yesterday on the changes proposed to bylaws, staff senate website and making changes.
- c. Engagement: **Emily Dougherty & Paula Cox** – Meeting Monday @ 10:00 am. Bingo and Trivia ready to go, just need to set dates. Emily met with Campus Recognition and we have the results from the survey and 53 people participated. Megan brought up some events we could look at and we have 3 different dates for dining with the President and Kathy, and we have Coffee with Kathy to plan possibly once a month.
- d. Legislative: **Kyle Markwardt & Brian Schill** – Brian shared the results of the survey that was sent out. Looks like wages and commissions came in first and healthcare was another important issue for staff. Kyle mentioned they are tracking the bills being discussed.
- e. Public Relations: **Brenda Haugen & Cristina Mead** – Newsletter went out today. Facebook pages are going well with Did you Know and Catching employees. Have names for the next few weeks. Send nominations to Brenda.
- f. Staff & Professional Development: **Zauna Synnott** – Thank you Chris Dingle on the 31 Day of Glory. TTDa link to recordings for training. Meets next Friday.
- g. Staff Recognition: **Andria Spaeth** – Congratulations, Andria on Staff Recognition Week. Thank you to everyone who helped. We ran out of lunches. Having the Hawk there was a huge success, this was an awesome idea. We got some great pictures and interaction with staff. All caught up with the UShine awards. Please nominate people doing awesome things. Peggy Varberg mentioned that a student saw her walking back with her lunch and asked what was going on and when Peggy told her it was to recognize the staff, the student said that was a great idea and that the staff deserved a free lunch!

8. University Committee Reports – No reports.

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

- a. **Leadership opportunities for staff-**
 - i. Accreditation leadership opportunity – Closes October 17th for nominations.
 - ii. Task Force on the Future Education at UND – Closes November 1st for nominations.
- b. NDUS Smart Restart Task Force Meeting: Testing is main focus. UND is a pilot program for the new saliva tests.
- c. Pandemic Briefing Meeting: A lot going on here, make sure to read the minutes Megan Wasylow sent out.
- d. ND State Staff Senate: The website is live go visit it at <https://staff.senate.ndus.edu/>
- e. University Senate: No report from Megan Wasylow.
- f. Monthly Meetings: Monthly meetings with President Armacost are going well, if you have something you would like brought up, email Megan Wasylow. Peggy brought up the day after Thanksgiving off and President Armacost talked it over with Chancellor and it looks like a no go for this year.
- g. Suggestion Box: About reimbursing employees for internet and using their own cell phones. Looks like not at this time unless you can show that it is incremental spending out of your pocket and not something you already were paying for.

10. Business Items

- a. University Senate Conflict of Interest Committee – two staff to serve. Will send out the survey to vote, Emily Dougherty moved to nominate Chris Mead and Laura Vatnsdal and close nominations, Chris Dingle 2nd the motion, the link was sent out and updating was taking a while so Megan Wasylow will send results in the email.

11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion – FMLA- Peggy Varberg discussed that there are being some changes looked at for the FMLA policies. Instead of using all of your leave before you take unpaid leave, you can now save up to 40 hours of sick and 40 hours of annual leave for a total of 80 hours. This way you will have a leave bank when you return to work for appointments.

12. Adjourn – Adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next Staff Senate Meeting
November 4, 2020 – 3-4:30 PM
Zoom