



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

Members Present: Zachary Aubol, Dan Boese, Tyler Clauson (Past President), Paula Cox, Chris Dingle, Jordan Eberhardt, Kristin Ellwanger, Carissa Green, Jade Gourneau, Sarah Heitkamp, Kari Holter, Devona Janousek, Melissa Mager, Cheryl Misialek, Lisa Moore, Cindy Murphy, June Novacek, , Tyler O'Hara, Jennifer Proulx, Brian Schill (Vice President/President Elect), Jayson Sharp, Eric Souvannasacd, Andria Spaeth, Zauna Synnott, Laura Vatnsdal, Megan Wasylow (President), Michael Ullrich, and Cathy Westerhausen

Members Absent: Melissa Casanova, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Monica Evavold, Brenda Haugen, Jamey Holweger, Brian Larson, Kyle Markwardt, Christina MeadPeggy Schulz, Julie Simon, and Carla Spokely.

Ex-Officio Present: Peggy Varberg

Guests: President Armacost, Jed Shivers, Cara Halgren, Meloney Lindner, Dr. Tamba-Kuui Bailey.

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.
2. **Announcements** – None.
3. **Guest Speakers:** DEI Talks Force, President Andy Armacost and co-chairs of the DEI Task Force: Vice President Cara Halgren (Vice President for Student Affairs & Diversity & Dean of Students) and Dr. Tamba-Kuui Bailey, Assistant Professor of Counseling Psychology. President Armacost mentioned that part of the reason for the task force is to treat people with the dignity and the respect that they deserve. Cara Halgren mentioned that they split into 4 different groups and were working on different areas. They bring them together in the end. Dr Tamba-Duui Bailey talked about the 10 recommendations. Make sure to go and read the report and the recommendations at https://und.edu/about/mission/_files/docs/the-task-force-on-diversity-and-inclusion-recommendation-report-to-und.pdf.
4. **Introductions:** Lightening round/ First and last names and favorite junk food!
5. **Approve minutes from November 11, 2020 Staff Senate Meeting** – Kristin Ellwanger moved to approve the minutes, June Novacek 2nd the motion to approve. No discussion. Motion carries unanimously.
6. **Officer Reports**
 - a. Vice President: **Brian Schill** – No report. Great job Brian on the December Potluck!
 - b. Historian: **Dan Boese** – 31 Days of Glory posted on the website at 1:00 pm.
 - c. Membership: **Melissa Casanova (Paula Cox temporary)** – No report.
 - d. Secretary: **Paula Cox** – No report.

- e. Treasurer: **Devona Janousek** – Devona wanted to give a shout out to Brandon Wallace in Payment and Procurement services on the payments for the 31 Days of Glory giving great customer service. Good job, thank you.
- f. Member at Large: **Chris Dingle** – Thank you to all who are helping with 31 Days of Glory.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Community Relations: **Kari Holter & June Novacek** – Met on Monday going over the 15 applications we received and rating them. We will meet next Monday and decide who gets what. Tubs of Love is going to help Journey Home Animal Rescue and will run in January. Still will do the tubs around campus. If your building does not have a tub and you would like one, let Kari know. We will contact Journey Home and see what they need.
- b. (Past President) Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections: **Tyler Clauson** – Nothing new to report.
- c. Engagement: **Emily Dougherty & Paula Cox** – Bingo was a success. We had 45 attendees and the staff were really excited for face time with other staff members not related to work. It was a lot of fun for all. President Armacost popped in and said hello and told the staff what a great job they were doing and how appreciated they were. Lots of fun and festive sweaters and head pieces. Coffee with Kathy is tomorrow and will be hosted by Laura Vatnsdal.
- d. Legislative: **Kyle Markwardt & Brian Schill** – Haven't met since the last meeting, the Gov. has released a budget proposal for 20-21 is proposed at \$2.6 billion. Jed Shivers spoke to getting Merit raises of 2% each year and that they will be leaving the healthcare premiums alone for now.
- e. Public Relations: **Brenda Haugen & Cristina Mead** – Send all items to the PR committee about a week in advance to get approval.
- f. Staff & Professional Development: **Zauna Synnott** – Seeds for Staff Success are for the Spring semester fees and books, professional development any of these items qualify. Lining up speakers for next year.
- g. Staff Recognition: **Andria Spaeth** UShine, we have received a couple for November and will work on getting those out.

8. University Committee Reports –

- a. University Senate Budget Update – See Legislative committee above.

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

- a. Staff Senate Executive Committee
 - i. Reminder to Senators – Bylaws II, E & F
Senators are expected to attend all Staff Senate meetings. Senators shall contact the Membership Officer directly, to record their absence prior to an anticipated absence or as soon as possible after an unexpected absence of any Staff Senate meeting.
A Senator who has had three (3) absences in any twelve (12) month period or fraction thereof is not in good standing and will be contacted by the Staff Senate President and that Senator's position may be vacated by a vote of the Executive Committee.
Attendance will be taken at each Staff Senate meeting.
- b. Provost Search Update - The committee reviewed the applications the last week of November. We got a very robust pool. We met on December 4th to discuss applicants and make decisions on who we would like to invite to participate in the first round of interviews with the committee, which will take place virtually the week of December 14th. Our current timeline is to have finalist interviews the week of January 11th where

there will be opportunities for public forums, sessions with various constituents, and more.

- c. NDUS Smart Restart Task Force Meeting
- d. Pandemic Briefing Meeting – More discussion on vaccines. Will take a while. Keep safety procedures in place. Looking for volunteers at testing sites. Volunteers are vital for testing. Thank you to Andria Spaeth for her volunteering, this is a great service to UND and the Grand Forks community.
- e. ND State Staff Senate, Website is live: <https://staffsenate.ndus.edu/>
 - i. Task Force for Tuition Waivers was voted in approval to start.
- f. University Senate – No updates.
- g. Suggestion Box – 2 items in the suggestion box
UND Parking closing lots. Make sure to check the website to see which lots are closed.
Access to Sanitary products. See website for this.

10. Business Items

- a. Senator Vote: Zak Aubol – Peggy cannot vote, but would like to endorse him. Sarah Heitkamp made a motion to vote, motion was 2nd by Laura Vatnsdal, voting email was sent out, motion carried. Welcome Zak.

11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion – Winter Wellness started and there are great gift packages to give out. Zak mentioned the Linkdin learning through the end of the year on Diversity and Inclusion.

12. Adjourn – Andria Spaeth made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cathy Westerhausen 2nd the motion, meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm.

Next Staff Senate Meeting

January 13, 2021 – 3-4:30 PM

Zoom