



**Staff Senate Minutes**  
**January 13, 2021**  
**Via Zoom**  
**3-4:30 pm**

**Members Present:** Zachary Aubol, Dan Boese, Paula Cox, Chris Dingle, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Jordan Eberhardt, Kristin Ellwanger, Monica Evavold, Carissa Green, Jade Gourneau, Brenda Haugen, Sarah Heitkamp, Kari Holter, Jamey Holweger, Devona Janousek, Brian Larson, Melissa Mager, Kyle Markwardt, Cheryl Misialek, Lisa Moore, Cindy Murphy, June Novacek, , Tyler O'Hara, Jennifer Proulx, Brian Schill (Vice President/President Elect), Peggy Schulz, Julie Simon, Eric Souvannasacd, Andria Spaeth, Carla Spokely, Zauna Synnott, Laura Vatnsdal, Megan Wasylow (President), Michael Ullrich, and Cathy Westerhausen.

**Members Absent:** Melissa Casanova, Tyler Clauson (Past President), Christina Mead, and Jayson Sharp.

**Ex-Officio Present:** Peggy Varberg

**Guests:** VP Jed Shivers, VP Cara Halgren, and VP Joshua Wynne.

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm.
2. **Announcements** – None.
3. **Guest Speakers:** Jed Shivers spoke about UND's position. Discussions with President Armacost, Cara Halgren, Peter Johnson, and himself about Covid-19 impact all across ND. People with a college education are more resilient and suffer less impact during times like this. Going into the Fall 2021 semester, looking at more part-time students, increase in Graduate school enrollment, and 2+2 programs. UND has done better with completion and graduates. The building projects are going great. Weather has been a huge factor in getting further along in projects. Looking at P3 for housing, restoration of the dorm buildings. Governors cut is 7.4% not major for us. 3+3 on table for raises and merit. Will stabilization happen this year? We will see. Dr. Josh Wynne, SMHS, spoke and said their plan mirror's that of UND. We need to see how things evolve on the 18<sup>th</sup>.
4. **Introductions:** Lots of sharing.
5. **Approve minutes from December 9, 2020 Staff Senate Meeting** – June Novacek moved to approve the minutes, Chris Dingle 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to approve. No discussion. Motion carries unanimously.
6. **Officer Reports**
  - a. Vice President: **Brian Schill** – General conversation with President Armacost about Staff Senate. Waiting to hear on the tuition waiver information.
  - b. Historian: **Dan Boese** – No update.
  - c. Membership: **Melissa Casanova (Paula Cox temporary)** – Wondering when Melissa Casanova is back. No update.

- d. Secretary: [Paula Cox](#) – Put minutes on TEAMS for Dan to upload to the website.
- e. Treasurer: [Devona Janousek](#) – No update.
- 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](#) – Tubs of Love delivered Thanks Jordan, awesome job on the flyers. Jordan to check up on the tubs. Good job facilities. Deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup> and they will pick up. If you are looking for easy drop off, Twamley, Wilkerson, and Facilities are there if you are working remotely and want to drop off. Tubs to go to the medical school, thank you Zauna.
- b. (Past President) Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections: [Tyler Clauson](#) – No report.
- c. Engagement: [Emily Dougherty](#) & [Paula Cox](#) – virtual Bingo in December and Coffee with Kathy were both very successful. February 11 is the next Coffee with Kathy. Open to faculty if space allows. January 19<sup>th</sup> is the next committee meeting from 2-3. Thursday meeting with Facebook moderators. 5 groups. Good job, Emily!
- d. Legislative: [Kyle Markwardt](#) & [Brian Schill](#) – Met on Monday – tracking bills going through the session. Proposal talked about -Staff Senate to local legislators of District 42. State Staff Senate tracking as well.
- e. Public Relations: [Brenda Haugen](#) & [Cristina Mead](#) – No report.
- f. Staff & Professional Development: [Zauna Synnott](#) – Awarded Seeds for Staff Success. Meet this Friday at 10 am. Speaker for March more on this next month.
- g. Staff Recognition: [Andria Spaeth](#) – Caught up on the UShine awards. November is tomorrow and December is next week. Spring Fling mid to late April.

## 8. University Committee Reports –

- a. University Senate Budget Update – No report from Budget.
- b. University Senate Conflict of Interest Committee – Have not met or no emails yet.

## 9. Staff Senate President Report – [Megan Wasylow](#)

- a. Faculty/Staff Town Hall – Thursday is town hall.
- b. Provost Search Update – We are in the middle of it right now.
- c. NDUS Smart Restart Task Force Meeting – Minutes being sent out.
- d. Pandemic Briefing Meeting – Minutes are being sent out and the vaccines are out now.
- e. ND State Staff Senate, Website is live: <https://staffsenate.ndus.edu/> Links website to agenda. Campus updates can be found here now.
- f. University Senate – Did not meet in January.
- g. Suggestion Box – 2 items posted to website. Cara answered the first one on student fees and Mike Pieper answered the second one on Tree removal on campus.
- h. Staff Senate Executive Committee Elections
  - i. March Meeting: VP/President Elect nominations will be accepted, with a written document sent to the Senate one week prior to the April meeting. – Tyler is working on the terms to send out to Senator's so you know where you are in the term.
  - ii. April Meeting: Elections for Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Officer, and Historian. If applicable, elections for any open chair positions not filled.
  - iii. May Meeting: Elections for 3 Members-at-Large.
  - iv. Megan asked that we all think about three questions. Why join Staff Senate? Goals for Staff Senate? What do you need to reach those goals? The Staff Senate helps increase your skillsets. Megan will email out for personal development for evaluations.

- i. Staff Senator of the Year – Announced at April Meeting. Megan will build a Qualtrics survey. Make sure to do the Kudo's first.

**10. Business Items**

- a. Senator Vote: If you are nominating someone, make sure you talk to them first.

**11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion** – Work Well Bingo – Emily wanted to thank Andria for doing this. Timeline on vaccinations. Cara mentioned look at the lists will bump up if they can. There will be no doses wasted.

**12. Adjourn** – Brenda Haugen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Andria Spaeth 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, meeting adjourned at 4:03 pm.

**Next Staff Senate Meeting**  
February 10, 2021 – 3-4:30 PM  
**Zoom**