



Staff Senate Minutes
April 14, 2021
Via Zoom
3-4:30 pm

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

Members Absent: Melissa Casanova, Brian Larson, Brian Schill (Vice President/President Elect), Peggy Schulz, and Jayson Sharp.

Ex-Officio Present: Peggy Varberg

Guests: President Armacost, VP Jed Shivers, Heidi Flaten, Tracy Backstrom, and Dr. Sean Valentine.

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.
2. **Announcements** – 7:30 – 8:30 pm Dr. Legerski Faculty Lecture tonight. GGFYP Lunch and Learn on April 20th, President Armacost is speaking, Chamber ZoomBAH 4 pm tomorrow.
3. **Guest Speakers:** Dr. Sean Valentine on Motivation in the workplace.
4. **Introductions:** We have a lot of great reasons to be thankful for staff senate.
5. **Approve minutes from March 10, 2021 Staff Senate Meeting** – Samantha Eastman made a motion to approve, Brenda Haugen 2nd the motion. No discussion. Motion carries unanimously.
6. **Officer Reports**
 - i. Vice President: [Brian Schill](#) – No update
 - ii. Historian: [Dan Boese](#) – No update.
 - iii. Membership: [Melissa Casanova \(Paula Cox temporary\)](#) – No update.
 - iv. Secretary: [Paula Cox](#) – No update.
 - v. Treasurer: [Devona Janousek](#) – No update.
 - vi. Member at Large: [Chris Dingle](#) – No update.
7. **Committee Reports**
 - i. Community Relations: [Kari Holter](#) & [June Novacek](#) – No updates. Kari's last meeting. June would love to get a co-chair. Contact Kari if interested.
 - ii. (Past President) Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections: [Tyler Clauson](#) – Election ballot is out. We had a good number of nominations. Thank you to all for your help.

- iii. Engagement: [Emily Dougherty](#) & [Paula Cox](#) – Tomorrow is the 2nd to last Coffee with Kathy before summer. We have a few spots left. Jordan Eberhardt is hosting the event and has brought a few engineering staff on board for the event. We are happy to announce that Jordan Eberhardt has agreed to co-chair the Engagement committee with Paula. Thank you, Jordan! May 4th is our Virtual Bingo event. Theme will be “May the Fourth be with You!” This is Emily’s last meeting as well and she will miss us all.
- iv. Legislative: [Kyle Markwardt](#) & [Brian Schill](#) – Just tracking the bills and going back to the drawing board on the HealthCare.
- v. Public Relations: [Brenda Haugen](#) – No update.
- vi. Staff & Professional Development: [Zauna Synnott](#) – Thank you to all who attended Optimism 101, we had a great turnout. May 15th is the deadline for Seeds for Staff Success, check out TTDa for any events for April and May.
- vii. Staff Recognition: [Andria Spaeth](#) – Wrapped up Spring Fling. Annual UShine is coming up, we are taking votes for March and April.

8. University Committee Reports –

- i. University Senate Budget Update Debra Beiswenger & Dawn Seaver.
- ii. University Senate Conflict of Interest Committee –Laura Vatnsdal is on committee. Open seat on this committee. We are meeting tomorrow for the first time.

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

- i. Memorial Tribute Fund Update – We are not collecting for this anymore. Instead donate to Seeds for Staff Success.
- ii. NDUS Smart Restart Task Force Meeting – Refer to the briefing sent out.
- iii. Pandemic Briefing Meeting – Refer to the briefing sent out.
- iv. ND State Staff Senate, Website is live: <https://staffsenate.ndus.edu/> Links website to agenda. Looking for a representative for retirement committee can be any staff at UND. Let Megan know by Friday if you are interested.
- v. University Senate – Angel Fund could use more donations. Please donate to this fund to help needy students even if it is only \$5. You also get an awesome pin for donating.
- vi. Suggestion Box – All items in here were thanking staff for the Spring Fling. Asked if could be inside, but staying in the warmth of your car is better.
- vii. Staff Senate Executive Committee Elections
 - i. May Meeting: Gavel Pass. Elections for 3 Members-at-Large.

10. Business Items –

a. Elections

- i. Vice President/President Elect nominations vote – Both candidates read their VP statements to the Staff Senate. Megan Wasylow sent out the Qualtrics to vote. Results came in, Congratulations Paula Cox is the new Vice President/President Elect.
- ii. Historian vote– Megan Wasylow nominated Dan Boese, Dan accepted. Vote went out. Congratulations, Dan Boese.
- iii. Membership Officer vote – Megan Wasylow nominated Carla Spokely, Carla accepted. Vote went out. Congratulations, Carla Spokely.
- iv. Secretary vote – Megan Wasylow nominated Monica Evavold, Monica declined with heavy workload not possible at this time. Brian Schill nominated Cheryl Misialek, Cheryl accepted, vote went out. Congratulations Cheryl.
- v. Treasurer vote – Brian Schill nominated Lisa Moore, Lisa accepted. Brian Schill nominated Cathy Westerhausen, Cathy declined at this time. Megan Wasylow nominated Andria Spaeth, Andria declined at this time. Vote went out. Congratulations Lisa Moore.

Megan Wasylow asked for a motion to be made to extend the meeting by 10 minutes, Emily Dougherty made a motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes, Monica Evavold 2nd the motion. Motion carries.

b. End of Year Celebration –

- vi. Big accomplishments for this year during the Covid-19 Pandemic include: Jeans Give Back, Purchased Banners for Future Staff Senate events, Monthly Ushines State Employee Recognition Breakfast/Luncheon, Coffee with Kathy, Seeds for Staff Success, virtual Bingo, 31 Days of Glory fundraiser, Mini Leadership Series, Tubs of Love, Spring Fling, Main Speaker (Berry Brode), Tuition Waiver Task Force on the State Staff Senate, Kept updated on the Legislative Session, and Staff Catches on our Facebook page, and there are many more.
- vii. The following senators had perfect attendance: Dan Boese, Chris Dingle, Samantha Eastman, Jordan Eberhardt, Kristin Ellwanger, Jennifer Proulx, Brian Schill, Andria Spaeth, and Cathy Westerhausen.
- viii. Thank you to our outgoing senators – 1- terms include: Melissa Casanova, Emily Dougherty, Samantha Eastman, Kristin Ellwanger, Devona Janousek, and Brenda Haugen. 2 – terms – Tyler Clausen, Kari Holter, and Jayson Sharp.
- ix. Staff Senator of the Year – Congratulations Andria Spaeth. You have done an amazing job this last year!

11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion – None.

12. Adjourn – 4:39 pm

Next Staff Senate Meeting

May 12 – 3-4:30 PM

Zoom