



Staff Senate Minutes

February 8, 2023

1:30-3:00PM

Members Present: Zachary Aubol, Ivy Baird, Vaafusuaga Boese, Priya Chimote, Paula Cox (President), Jordan Eberhardt, Kristin Ellwanger, Monica Evavold, Carissa Green, Brenda Halle, Alissa Hancock, Jasmine Hurley, Anna Marie Kinney, Kaitlin Lockett, Kris McNab, Cheryl Misialek, Lisa Moore, Kyle Myers, Linnea Nelson, June Novacek, Jennifer Proulx, Brian Schill (Past President), Julie Simon, Andria Spaeth (Vice President), Zauna Synnott, Michael Ullrich, Andrea Velaris, Megan Wasylow, Jennifer Weigel, Cathy Westerhausen, Mike Wozniak.

Members Absent: Chris Egeland, Chris Glenn, Eric Gutzwiller, Naomi Hansen, Taylor Hanson Wald, Jamey Holweger, Erika Johnson, Cindy Murphy, Peggy Varberg (Ex-Officio)

Guests: Kelly Kennedy, Braeden Mueller, Becca Bergee, Art Malloy, Cassie Gerhardt, Kathryn Wise, Keith Skoglund, Alexandra Skime, Maridee Shogren, Meloney Linder, Joan Jorde, Addela Sampel, Cheryl Grew-Gillen, Heather Arens, Kari Holter, Kristi Okerlund, Lynette Geatz, Melissa Sola, Carissa Sigdahl, Andrea Green, Peter Johnson, Erik Link, Cheryl Kingsbury, Sara Kaiser

Ex-Officio Absent: Peggy Varberg

1. Call to Order at 1:31pm

2. Announcements:

- Greater Grand Forks Women's Leadership
- Business After Hours
- Feed My Starving Children in March – will be sending out a sign-up sheet

3. Approve minutes from January 12, 2023 Staff Senate Meeting – Brenda Halle moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Andria Spaeth seconded the motion. No discussion, minutes were approved

4. Guest – Peter Johnson – Shared discussion of the current bills in the legislature. Almost 1,000 bills are making it through the legislature. Sometimes there are bills that don't seem to be related to university that do impact us. Current bills that are being watched are related to:

- a. Tuition freeze.
- b. Amendment which would add to space and national security corridor which would be good for UND.
- c. Capitol project funding.
- d. Transgender and pronoun issues.
- e. Salaries are now 4% and 4%. This could be a placeholder.

We're close to half time now. The legislature has 80 days. It will end on April 21, 22, or 23.

5. Guest – Eric Link – shared Leadership talk

6. Officer Reports

- a. Vice President: [Andria Spaeth](#) – getting pieces ready for staff senate nominations
- b. Historian: [Vaafusuaga Boese](#) – no report
- c. Membership: – updated all list servs, etc. with current members
- d. Secretary: [Cheryl Misialek](#) – no report
- e. Treasurer: [Julie Simon](#) – 31 Days of Glory - all been submitted except for 1.
- f. Member at Large: [Kristin Ellwanger](#), [Taylor Hanson Wald](#), [Mike Wozniak](#) – no report

7. Committee Reports

- a. Engagement: [Jordan Eberhardt](#) – Coffee with Kathy discussion. Maybe invite other university members as special guests. Ham Bingo will be around Thursday March 30. Trivia on May 4th- Star Wars themed. Bean Bag Tournament during Spring Break. Working with Archives to do a staff/faculty takeover this semester.
- b. Community Relations: [June Novacek & Alissa Hancock](#) – East Grand Forks Food Shelf is the non-profit for February. Meals on Wheels ride-a-longs these are held Monday to Friday from 10:30am to noon. Volunteers hadn't been happening since COVID but are hoping to get back in gear this spring. Excited to have us. Trying to get more community engagement.
- c. Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections: [Brian Schill](#) – Staff Senate shared email with terms ending. Will have 16 open spots due to terms coming to an end. Encourage coworkers to nominate senators. President sent email advocating for staff senate membership.
- d. Legislative: [Brian Schill](#) – UND & NDSU have submitted budgets to the State Legislature. UND has a website that tracks bills. NDPERS bills haven't left committee, yet. Appropriations bill hasn't had action. Any discussion. Take time to read over legislation and put out a Qualtrics survey. Spaeth move the legislation for discussion to the business items. Hancock seconded the motion. Motion approved. One abstention.
- e. Public Relations: - [Chris Egeland & Chris Glenn](#) – Working on Staff Happens Newsletter. Will be coming out the 3rd week of the month.
- f. Staff & Professional Development: [Zauna Synnott](#) – Award letters for Seeds for Staff Success have been sent out. Working with TTDa on training opportunities.
- g. Staff Recognition: [Jen Proulx](#) – Shared Spring Fling updates and will be sending out a volunteer sign up.

8. University Committee Reports

- a. Parking Committee updates – Email any questions you have. Willing to attend and speak to future Staff Senate meeting. Looking at consultant to do a survey. Parking got H back into the Wellness lot.
- b. Conflict of Interest/Scientific Misconduct Committee updates – Met the end of November. Went through duties, focusing on work currently being done. Will be formally disbanding since this is covered in other areas.
- c. Campus Safety Committee updates – Met, but this committee is new so still getting things together.
- d. Budget Committee updates – no report
- e. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee updates – no report
- f. Telecom Modernization Committee updates – no report

9. Staff Senate President Report

- g. Met with President, legislative, hybrid procedures, contact Peggy Varberg or Becca Bergee.

10. Business Items

- h. Legislative Session – in the best interest to do this electronically, can bring a motion forward at any time. No reason we couldn't do it electronically. Address in a timely way online.
 - i. Tenure – Bill 1446 faculty and staff are generally opposed to. Eliminate tenure. University senate and student govt are already opposed. Support our colleagues? We should have a voice in that discussion. How do we do it the right way? This could impact university quality. There is no appeal their firing. This is a precedent.
 - ii. Title IV – 1256 oppose this too? We can operate separately.

11. Matters Arising/Open Discussion

- i. Congratulations to all staff and staff senators at the LEAD Strategic Plan kickoff

12. Adjourn – Andria Spaeth moved to extend the time by 15 minutes. Brian Schill seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm

Next Staff Senate Meeting

March 8, 2023

3:00 - 4:30 pm

Memorial Union (rm 318 AB meeting room)