



Salisbury University – Staff Senate

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Zoom

Members In attendance: Joe Benyish, Steve Blankenship, Vanessa Collins, Jennifer Ellis, Lisa Gray, Sara Heim, Candace Henry, Tabitha Pilchard, Safaa Said

Members Absent: Paul Gasior, Matt Hill, Jessica Scott, and Amy Waters

Executive Staff: None present

Chair, Tabitha Pilchard, opened the meeting at 10:00 am

I. Reports

a. CUSS Updates

i. Met June 15th at UMES.

1. There has been high level of unemployment fraud against USM employees. HR will contact the employee to complete paperwork if the employee's identity was stolen in this way.
2. Return to campus plans are being rolled out across the USM system.
3. The recently held professional development series was well attended in its first year. They hope to expand the series for next year.
4. Board of Regents award recommendations have been submitted.
5. Trying to streamline CUSS committees and refocus efforts where needed.

II. Old Business

a. Standing Committees – Updates

i. Human Resources

1. No updates

ii. Communications/Snack & Chat Sessions

1. A summer break is being observed
2. Steve Blankenship will present on Identity Theft - Sept.
3. HR will review benefits - Oct.
4. Civic Reflection - Nov.
5. A break will be observed in December
6. Active shooter presentation is currently being worked on for the Spring

b. Revisions to By-Laws

- i. Reviewed changes discussed at last session. New Senators were given a copy of the new By-Laws. They will be given time to review before voting at the next meeting in September.

III. New Business

- a. Staff Senate Suggestion Box – Employee wanted to know if they would be refunded for their parking pass for the previous year. It was an anonymous submission. The answer is no, campus was open and the employee had the option to not purchase a pass if it wasn't needed.

b. Employee Appreciate Day

- i. A 153 employees have RSVP'd for the day-time event, 13 for the evening. Encourage others to RSVP.
- ii. August 4th 11:30 – 1:30 is the in-person luncheon, a to-go container will be provided to those who request it.
- iii. Dr. Wormack & Kevin Vedder will recognize employees of the month and of the year
- iv. 6:30pm will be the session for evening staff – Dr. Wormack will attend
- v. Eli Modlin has agreed to be master of ceremony.

- vi. 2pm raffle will be held via zoom to give out door prizes – President Wight will attend this session.
- c. New Officers
 - i. Current open positions: 1st chair, 2nd chair, 3rd chair, secretary, communications, and HR committee
 - ii. Steve Blankenship was nominated and accepted 3rd chair
 - iii. Joe Benyish was nominated and accepted 2nd chair
 - iv. Vanessa Collins was nominated and accepted 1st chair
 - v. Candace Henry was nominated and accepted the position of acting representation on the HR committee
 - vi. The position of lead of communications for the monthly snack & chat sessions and the secretary position will be sent out to the Staff Senators via email so those not in attendance could nominate themselves if interested.
 - vii. Staff Senate will also be replacing a non-exempt senator position via a separate election process in the coming month.

IV. Approval of the June Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to approve: Vanessa
- b. Motion to second: Joe Benyish

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned: 11:53 pm

Next Meeting – Sept. 9th, Founders Room, GSU with a Zoom option.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Heim