University Staff Senate

February 20, 2024 | 3:30pm-5:00pm | RSC 142 – Harvest Room

**Senators in Attendance:** Erin Shields, Johnny Buchanan-Spachek, Marissa Kouns, Jessica Pierpoint, Matt Houston, Anne Marie Brown, Rhenee Swink, Vicki Forbes, Jacob Mendez, Kendra Nguyen, Denise Gimlin, Nathan Johnson, Lyndsay Pletcher, Krissy Archambeau, Kennedy Rogers, Amy McClintock, Carrie Wyatt, JaNeshia Wilson, Courtney Lockhart, Amy Belden, Naquela Pack, Sara Rue, Wendy Brooking, and Will Fuls.

**Senators not in Attendance:** Emily Martin, Jennifer Nicholson, Angela Linder, Pamela O’Neill,

**Guests:** Lisa Clancy, Lana Anthis, Joseph Dempewolf, Tracie Taylor, Susan McCoy, Jeanna Degrasse, Chelsea Smidt, Francine Angell, Kevin Crabtree, Brooke Allen, and Caitlin Bruner.

1. **Call to Order**
   1. Approval of Minutes
   2. Committee Reports/Updates – Submitted in advance
2. **New Business**
   1. Non-exempt Vacancies & Installations
      1. The Staff Senate had three open Senate seats that were currently available for non-exempt WSU Staff members. We had four employees who are interested in these seats.  The three individuals who received the most votes were awarded the open Senate seats and will be sworn in at an upcoming meeting in March.
3. **Old Business/Reminders**
   1. Senate Committee Appointments
   2. Stock the Shocker Support Locker Working Group
4. **Committee Updates - provided in advance.**
   1. **Senate Committees**
      1. **Awards and Recognition** 
         1. The deadline for nominations closed on Friday February 2nd, after being extended for 1 week.  We received a total of 29 nominations!  The committee will meet to review and select 5 nominees at the end of February.  The winners will receive a free parking space for 1 year in addition to a dining credit.
      2. **Communication and Website**
         1. The Communication & Website Committee is working with the Professional Development & Service Committee on the creation of a webpage for their STRIVE conference.
         2. Also, a webpage is being created for the Scholarship Committee for their two new scholarships.
      3. **Elections**
         1. Any updates will be provided during the meeting.
      4. **Policy Review**
         1. No Updates.
      5. **Professional Development and Service**
         1. Shocker Strive Conference Updates
            1. Friday, March 22 in the Rhatigan Student Center
            2. The committee is currently reaching out to presenters to finalize the schedule.
            3. The website will be up to date shortly and will have the schedule, presentation information and registration link.
      6. **Ad Hoc Committee on Scholarships**
         1. Professional Development Scholarship
            1. Need to establish new fund stream.
            2. A new pledge $10,000 before new fund/guidelines can be created.
         2. Shocker Employee and Dependent Scholarship
            1. Application and Guidelines – Approval signatures completed.
            2. Webpage being created by Communications Committee
            3. Need a fundraising campaign.

Employees can contribute via payroll deduction. Gift via payroll deduction: <https://foundation.wichita.edu/wsu-faculty-and-staff-resources/>

If an individual (employee or external) wants to make a larger, individual gift or planned gift, they can contact the Foundation directly.

Donations could be for larger gifts through pledges, or one-time gifts as well.

The Foundation can set up an iDonate page for both scholarships.

* 1. **Campus/University Business Meeting Updates**
     1. **Academic Forum**
        1. No updates.
     2. **Budget Advisory Committee**
        1. Gov's recommended budget - overall supportive of higher ed
        2. UG vs GR credit hour production - different revenue amounts
           1. GR hrs down, specifically IE GR (slide)
           2. Will see increase in recruitment efforts - everyone's responsibility; please prioritize requests around this per Dr. Lefever.
        3. WSU Idea generator - updates implemented - (https://wsubac.wordpress.com/)
           1. If faculty or staff submit idea related to the budget, they now have option to select VP who would oversee idea - this will kick off email to VP to review/explore
        4. Upcoming meeting on 2/15 will start to discuss GU funding proposals
     3. **Human Resources Meeting (Joint with Faculty Senate Reps)** 
        1. HR meeting was rescheduled to Feb. 19th. Updates will be provided during the meeting.
     4. **KBOR Briefing**
        1. Any updates will be provided during the meeting.
     5. [**Legislative Update**](https://www.wichita.edu/administration/government_relations/updates.php)
        1. Nothing new to update currently. President Muma and team were in Topeka last week testifying and answer questions around our budget requests. More information to come once there is movement toward decision making.
     6. **President One-on-One**
        1. Any updates will be provided during the meeting.
     7. **RSC Board of Directors**
        1. No updates.
     8. **Traffic and Parking Appeals**
        1. No updates.
     9. **UPS/USS President’s Council (KBOR)** 
        1. Any updates will be provided during the meeting.
     10. **VP of Finance & Administration One-on-One** 
         1. No updates. Recent meeting was transitional with Jason planning to exit and introducing Kennedy.
     11. **PET & Constituent Heads** 
         1. United Way guest presented. Enrollment and recruitment remain a top priority. Deans shared recruitment efforts and strategies. HR shared a reminder about the new E-Verify process going into effect Feb. 1 for new employees only among hopes for a preliminary pay analysis report coming later in the spring.

1. **As May Arise**
   1. IXP Lunch
      1. WSU News release: https://www.wichita.edu/about/wsunews-releases/2023/11-nov/ixp\_3.php
      2. Wichita State University is partnering with Connected Nation to build a carrier neutral IXP on the WSU Innovation Campus. This is the 1st IXP in Kansas and the 1st carrier neutral IXP in the nation located on a university campus.
      3. Key takeaways: (Tonya hopes to get some slides available to share at a later date)
         1. Helps make local and regional internet faster and is important to the experience, security, and resiliency of internet in the area.
         2. Raises WSU’s profile as innovators in this area and Wichita’s profile in the way we play into the global network.
         3. Helps close the digital divide in Kansas.
         4. Construction project will take around 18 months with minimal impact to campus.
2. **Upcoming Meetings/Events**
   1. March Senate Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 3:30pm-5:00pm, RSC 142 Harvest Room | TEAMS Link: [Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NDc5NzgzNjctNTk0MC00YjQ5LTgwYjMtODUzNGEzYzJkOTU2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e05b6b3f-1980-4b24-8637-580771f44dee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22436634f0-7b3c-43f9-8f1b-2c03f0463d91%22%7d)
   2. Check the [Events Calendar](https://www.wichita.edu/calendar/index.php?com=searchresult) for upcoming events on campus