

2016/2017 Senate Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2016

Present: Angela Beatie, Denecia Angleton, Connie Basquez, Johny Buchanan-Spachek, Linda Claypool, Daniel Collins, Renea Goforth, Rosemary Hedrick, Debra Herndon, Matt Houston, Angela Linder, Carla Mann, Robbie Norton, Stacy Salters, Randy Sessions, Hercilia Thompson, Karen Wilson, Lisa Wood, William Wray

Excused: Dustin Carter, Christy Clarkson, Crystal Dilbeck, Walter Mayne

Unexcused: Connie Owens

Guests: Becky North, Ali Levine

I. Call to order/Welcome

- A) Introduction of Executive Team
- B) Business-
 - Thanks to Stacey Salters
 - Expectations- Please let Johnny know if you need to be excused, please be on time.
 - Current Committee List- Passed Around and updated
- C) Approval of the Minutes
 - Motion
 - Question- Randy
 - "Most WATC staff have a bachelor's degree or lower as their terminal degree."
 - o Stacy- move to approve minutes with this line in question and request verification. Seconded

D) General Update

- USS to UP- most recent numbers- there are still over 400 USS staff
- **C Biz** Employees should have been notified July 1st. According to Sarah Hunter: Supervisors are slowly sending in answers, and letters are being sent to employees as supervisors send in answers. Discussion- Verification back to C Biz by July 22nd? Who had received letters or emails? Employees should get letter in campus mail. Johnny will follow up with Sarah. According to Sarah, letters are being sent out slowly to lower the costs of 1,000 letters at once. Discussion: What about supervisors who are off contract? Some supervisors are experiencing confusion over deadlines and names on emails. Question: Has every supervisor had the opportunity to approve titles? Rumors-If there is no change in titles, will employees be notified? Consensus- we need clarification for both employees and supervisors. Johnny- we will try to have Sarah Hunter visit Senate meeting ASAP.
- KBOR
- One-on-One with Pres. Bardo- Johnny discussed generalization. Will ask about funding for travel.
- Finance Report- Renea: \$938, minus one trip already paid for; about \$40.
- Need more Senators- Johnny will send out more requests to employees asking for volunteers to
 participate in Senate. Suggestion- look through most current election results and look for runners
 up. Question- should we continue to email constituents? Johnny- wait until we know who has
 switched to UP status.



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- Alicia Sanchez- request for senator to serve on Office of Diversity & Inclusion Task Force. This task force will evaluate programs and services for LGBTQ. Renea Goforth volunteered to be on task force, suggested meeting on 7/19/16
- Part-Time Employee Leave Change- USS Staff were affected by the change in hours accumulated per pay period. Changed from 4.2 to 3.39. Suggested solution- work an hour more a week. Last pay period the policy changed the scale used, but didn't inform any employees. Johnny- we are in contact with HR to understand why the policy change and how to get it back. Ali- intention in change in leave policy was only to increase employee benefits. No solution has been offered yet. Johnny- we will continue to investigate
- Committees- sign-up sheet sent around to give Senators the option to change committees.
 - o **Alternative Service Committee** push from Classified to USS Senate and participated in the Equal Leave Policy update.
 - o Communications Committee- Newsletter, Social Media, Mailings
 - o Community Service Committee
 - o Constitution Committee- Need to update our constitution this year- Classified Staff to USS.
 - o Elections
 - o Shocker Pride
 - o **Tuition Committee** On hold. Lisa went to UP Senate to suggest full free tuition for us and our dependents without semester credit hour requirement. She is coordinating a group with a few people from each senate, will compare to other universities' policy. Randy- WATC & Friends employees and dependents get free tuition.
 - o Scholarship
 - o **Welcoming (Town Hall) Committee** Will we have more USS employees? Maybe need to adjust the committee, general town hall? Name should be changed to "Town Hall" Committee.
 - o **Professional Development** Becky North is here today from the UP Senate.
- **E)** Guest Speaker Vice President, John Tomblin
 - Innovation Campus
 - o Purpose of Presentation- prepare WSU employees can be informed and talk to community about Innovation Campus
 - o Dr. Tomblin has been employee of WSU for 22 years. He started as an assistant professor of aerospace engineering. Taught and worked ½ time at NAIR. Holds the record for most grants awarded to WSU. Became full professor and distinguished professor in 2001. Moved to be executive director of NAIR. Has sites at Coliseum, part of Old Boeing site, INCAT. Moved into the role of Associate Vice President of Research, as part of President Bardo's team.
 - o Has 430 staff at NAIR. We are #1 in the nation for aerospace engineering.
 - o What is WSU doing with the Innovation Campus? Relate to the university's mission statement. We want to be a leader in "Applied learning" & local "Economic Driver". Wichita has changed,



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- there are new challenges for our graduates in a post-9/11 and economic recession. Local companies have not been hiring our graduates' post 2009 and have outsourced jobs.
- o One of the problems is that companies do not want to invest the time to train our new graduates, so the Innovation Campus will give our students the opportunity to gain the experience these companies want in their applicants.
- o Dr. Tomblin has done projects where he has students do projects for these aerospace companies and all of the students have got jobs after graduation. He likens these projects to student teaching or medical internships for students.
- o We are doubling the size of the university. The first half took 100 years, the second half will be done in less than 10 years.
- o Within a month ground will be broken on a new residence hall, which will be privately owned-1-4 bedroom furnished apartments. Shocker Hall is currently overbooked. Majority of parents don't want their children to live in Fairmount Hall, so this new hall could be a replacement dorm in the future. Sand volleyball, pool and 280 underground parking places
- o Food Trucks- we have ordered a covering that can be taken down in the winter.
- o Dr. Tomblin has hopes for an updated recreation facility. We are the only Kansas University with old "Soviet-Area" workout area. If we get a new recreation facility, the Heskett Center would be run by departments- sports management, dance, intermural etc.
- o The entrance off 17th St will be "Innovation Blvd". There are city plans to enlarge 17th- single lane with medians and bike lanes- this is paid with a grant to make us more pedestrian and bike friendly.
- o Parking Garage- WSU bonded 7.5 million dollars to pay for it. The lack of parking for visitors and alumni is the biggest complaint. The online parking permit program just went online. The new parking garage will not have gates, but will instead take pictures of license plates going in and out and bill the driver. Alumni can park in any yellow or green lot. If they are parked here over 10 hours/year they should buy an online parking pass. Departments have the option of buying a reserved parking spot. The parking garage will be hourly parking.
- o Jobs- If the Innovation Campus is fully occupied there will be 10,000 more employees on campus (but not necessarily WSU employees).

II. Motion to adjourn

Motion:

Second:

Approved unanimously