

UW Staff Senate Full Meeting

Agenda

November 4, 2020 1:15 p.m.

Zoom



- I) Roll Call
- II) Approve October minutes
 - A) Minutes approved as circulated.
- III) Approve November agenda
 - A) Agenda approved as circulated.
- IV) Special Business
 - A) Confirmation of new senators
 - i) Jesselyn Burroughs, Academic Affairs, Seat 12
 - (1) Motion made to confirm above Senator Vigil.
 - (2) Seconded by Senator Stratton.
 - (3) Unanimously approved.
 - B) Vice President election results
 - i) Elizabeth Traver elected.
- V) Administration reports
 - A) Division of Administration - Deputy Vice President of Administration Bill Mai
 - i) Budget Reduction plan
 - ii) Board of Trustees meeting next week, via Zoom.
 - (1) Zoom format based on COVID cases.
 - (2) Attend and/or watch if you can.
 - iii) Questions
 - (1) Senator Keto – What is the payback window for the bonds for the new dorms? Is that going to be paid back from revenue from room and board fees? If we can't cover it from the intended source, how would we cover shortfalls?
 - (a) Desired terms will likely be decided in next week's Board of Trustees meeting. Calculations have been made on 25-30-year bonds. Earnings from Residence Life will be pledged to repay those bonds. There isn't a projection that there will be a shortfall.
 - B) Human Resources - Associate Vice President Tom Koczara
 - i) COVID Surveillance testing
 - (1) Program is underway and using Oracle/HCM to capture testing information.
 - (2) All staff included in testing population unless you can completely isolate or work from home, have a medical condition needing accommodations, or have a scheduling conflict.
 - (a) Exemption request form on HR website
 - (3) Check COVID-19 Testing Resources website if you or your constituents have any questions
 - ii) Phase IV
 - (1) Similar to phases I and II
 - (2) Begins after Thanksgiving and extends to the end of the semester
 - iii) Open enrollment deadline is November 30th.
 - iv) Questions
 - (1) Senator Vick – Do we know if the Spring semester will include a phased return?

- (a) It will not be phased but is subject to final approval by the Board of Trustees.
 - (b) Deputy Vice President Mai – The plan is to go straight to Phase III.
- (2) Senator Sullivan – Is there any discussion on the current numbers and any plans to address the growth of the numbers of COVID-19 cases?
- (a) The Executive group modified the way campus looks at COVID-19 across campus, isolating outbreaks. These responses are fairly effective at isolating outbreaks. Numbers have been growing across the state, but the consensus opinion is that we are managing the virus as best we can.
- (3) Senator Stratton – Why was the decision made to have alcohol at the games?
- (a) He's not sure but will look into it.
- (4) Senator Kuster – Could we nail down a timeline to get answers for policy and procedure changes regarding COVID (surrounding Thanksgiving and the move to phase IV)?
- (a) It's hard to do that due to the nature of the virus and how it impacts campus. We are also dependent on getting approval from the Board of Trustees before implementation.
- C) Academic Affairs - Associate Vice Provost Jim Ahern
- i) UW is only down 3.5% in total enrollment, compared to 4% across the US
 - (a) Graduate enrollment was up this fall by 1.9% (47 students)
 - (b) CARES Act Funding/Trailblazer Program helped enrollment numbers
 - (c) We are down 18% in international enrollment (undergraduate and graduate)
 - (i) Partly due to concerns about visas and other immigration issues over the last few years (e.g., travel restrictions)
 - (ii) Implemented a graduate teaching fellowship program to help those students still overseas
- (2) Faculty and staff are also experiencing challenges, especially those having to take care of children or other family members
- (a) Looking at how to accommodate these issues in terms of tenure and
- (3) Questions
- (i) Senator Taylor – UW will not require SAT or ACT scores for admission; are those still required for scholarships?
 - 1. Yes, they are required for scholarships, especially for the Trustees' award and similar. There is no institutional requirement for GRE scores, but other schools are waiving those requirements as well.
 - (b) Senator Keto – In the budget reduction plan draft, are the positions mentioned being eliminated in FY21 or FY22? Will exigency be declared to eliminate faculty positions?
 - (i) He doesn't have any more information but can ask Provost Alexander.

VI) Old Business

VII) Liaison Reports

- A) ASUW - President Rily Talamantes
- i) Recently passed legislation
 - (1) Housekeeping on bylaws, finance policy, and election policy
 - (2) Creation of Student Fee Review standing committee (combined three previous committees with similar missions)
 - (i) Tuition recommendations will be sent to the Board of Trustees next week
 - (3) ASUW support for Lauren's Promise in class syllabi
 - (4) Creation of ASUW Safety and Wellness special committee
- B) Faculty Senate - no representative present

- C) Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Senator needed)
- D) Athletics Planning Committee (Cathy Moen)
 - i) First committee meeting later today – will share report later this week.
- E) Enterprise Risk Management Advisory Committee (Chris Maki)
 - i) Suspended indefinitely.
- F) Food Security Taskforce (Chris Stratton)
 - i) Meeting Friday and will have report next month.
- G) No More Committee (Senator needed)
- H) President's Engagement Council (David Keto)
- I) Public Art Committee (Melanie Vigil)
 - i) Will have an update next month.
- J) Student Media Board (Emily Edgar)
 - i) No new report (scheduling/communication issues)
- K) USP Update Working Group (Richard Raridon)
- L) UW International Advisory Council (Senator needed)

VIII)Officer Updates

- A) President, Chris Stratton
 - i) Outgoing President Wheeler – thanks to all of Senate for their support over his tenure
 - ii) Outgoing President James Wheeler passed the gavel to President-Elect Chris Stratton
 - iii) Welcome to our new Vice President.
- B) Vice President, Elizabeth Traver
 - i) She is currently delving into her job duties and is open to suggestions.

IX) New Business

X) Committee Reports

- A) Communications Committee – Senator Moen
 - i) Meeting – November 5, 9:00am, Zoom
- B) Credentials and Elections Committee – Senator Vigil
 - i) Meeting – November 18, 1pm, Zoom
- C) Finance Committee – Senator Gonzales
 - i) Meeting – November 18, 8:30am, Zoom
 - ii) Rocky Mountain Power is only donating \$600 instead of \$1000 for the Jodi K. Humphrey award
 - iii) Questions
 - (1) Senator Keto – Has there been any conversation about using Senate funds to backfill that award?
 - (a) President Stratton – He agrees and that will be brought up in Exec.
- D) Recognition Committee – Senators Vick and Kuster
 - i) Meeting – November 19, 9:00am, Zoom
 - ii) Staff Recognition Day is March 24th, from 11am – 1pm
 - (1) Looking at locations on campus for in person watch parties for those who cannot watch the virtual event
 - (2) Save the Date will go out before the holiday break
 - (3) Considering a drive through solution for picking up Years of Service awards
 - iii) Questions
 - (1) Senator Moen – How would the drive through work?

- (a) Senator Kuster – It would probably happen before Recognition Day, and maybe include a video montage, but it's all still in the works.
- E) Staff Relations Committee – Senator Czech
 - i) Meeting – TBA
 - ii) She is trying to a time for a meeting with AVP Koczara, but hasn't received many questions from constituents
- XI) Open forum

Meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer McKenna

Staff Senate Secretary