



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 11, 2025 - 10:00 AM ITS Conference Room

- I. Call to Order was promptly at 10 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Brittany Chadwick, Austin Gregory, Anna Crawford, Ryan Murdock, Karen Petit, Pleshette Elmore, Brittany Brissey, Wyatt McInerney, Talia Samard, Corey Anthony

Excused absences: Perrin Rickenbaker, Grant Stone, Kendra Rodgers, Buck Billings, Kenneth Roach, Tony LePore, Jake Lucas
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Ryan to approve the minutes of the August meeting, with a second by Anna Crawford.
- IV. **Chair Report:** Brittany Brissey said that there would be no Guest Report this month to allow time for other Staff Senate discussions.

She encouraged Staff Senate members to look for ways that they can make a difference in their departments.

Among the ideas being considered for a staff gathering in the fall will be an event to be held during Fall Break for staff members, with costs not to exceed \$200.
- V. **Division Announcements:** 1) Admissions reported that they are beginning to make decisions for the 2026-27 academic year. 2) Brent Delgado has joined the staff as director of the University's Military and Veterans Services. 3) The Office of Marketing and Communications noted the University has had an increase in social media responses. 4) Housing has been involved in working to get students connected in the new academic year. 5) On Tuesdays and Thursdays, water aerobics are being held at 7:30 a.m.
- VI. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Pleshette for the Staff Senate to adjourn the regular meeting and have an executive session. Brittany Chadwick seconded the motion.

Executive Session

- I. **Committee Assignments:** Brittany Brissey announced the new Staff Senate committee assignments. These include:
 - **Employee Appreciation:** Anna (chair), Wyatt, Talia, Anthony, Kendra, Grant, Pleshette, Kenneth
 - **Professional Development:** Kenneth (chair), Jake, Brittany Chadwick, Austin, Corey

Staff Senate Mission Statement

The Lander University Staff Senate exists to enhance the welfare of its staff; to serve as a liaison between staff, administration, faculty, and students; and to advise the administration on matters concerning the staff. This focus provides staff a voice to promote a positive, respectful work environment that sustains both personal and professional growth. In support of the university's strategic plan, specifically the goal of remaining an employer of choice, the senate strives foremost to contribute to the overall success of Lander University and its students.

- **Communications:** Ryan (chair), Perrin, Buck, Karen, Grant
- II. Committee Goals:** Brittany Brissey asked committee members to discuss current initiatives underway and to list three goals for 2025-26.
- III. Open Discussion and Planning for Committees:**
- After committee members, ideas for initiatives included:
 - Employee Appreciation:** For the Office Spotlight, consider having Lander’s President Dr. Cosentino or the Division Vice Presidents involved in some way; Staff Senate could go, too.
 - Professional Development:** Have two – three workshops a semester, host a lunch and learn for offices to understand what different offices and departments do and how this work affects our ability to enrich the student experience on campus.
 - Communications:** Develop a “Did You Know?” communication to be sent to faculty and staff on interesting things about our campus, as well as events, and also develop a quarterly newsletter to highlight the achievements of Lander employees.
 - Staff Senate discussed asking departments for ideas on how they would like to be appreciated for their work, with feedback given from throughout the University. It also was discussed the possibility of a food drive non-perishable items for the Bear Necessities Food Pantry that would take place in November and December.
- IV. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.

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