



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 8, 2024 - 10:00 AM ITS Conference Room

- I. Call to Order was promptly 10:00am.
- II. Roll Call – Katie Whatley, Grant Stone, Taylor Haigler, Jeff Reynolds, ~~Brittany Brissey~~, Matthew Moore, Awaili Thomas-Quarles, Jamie Wilson, Karla Coffey, Kendra Rodgers, Jason Smith, Karen Petit, Katherine Lukas
Ex-officio present: London Thomas and Kurstin Lacoste (HR), Jessica Partlow (DAC)
- III. Vote to Approve Prior Minutes
 - a. Karla Coffey motioned to approve the July meeting minutes. Katherine Lukas seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
- IV. Diversity Advisory Council
 - a. The Diversity Advisory Council did not have a report.
- V. Chair Report
 - a. Taylor Haigler (Chair) encouraged the Senate to take advantage of their positions in the Staff Senate. She acknowledged the strong leadership in the new senate and expressed high expectations for this year. She spoke about her focus on consistent communication with university administration and emphasized the importance of focusing on initiatives that align with the university’s goals. The Staff Senate is going to experiment with closing their meetings in hopes of facilitating communication between senators and their divisions. Taylor discussed the potential of an “online suggestion/feedback box” or something similar to solicit feedback from the staff.
- VI. Election of the Senate Board
 - a. Chair-Elect
 - i. Awaili Thomas-Quarles ran unopposed and was elected Chair-Elect.
 - b. Secretary
 - i. An election was held by secret ballot, and Karen Petit was elected Secretary.
 - c. Treasurer
 - i. Katie Whatley ran unopposed and was elected Treasurer.
- VII. Committee Assignments

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.

- a. Taylor Haigler asked each Senator what committee(s) they would prefer to be on. She collected the responses and announced that she would send out committee assignments soon after the meeting.

VIII. New Business

- a. Taylor Haigler recognized Stacey Hart as the August Employee of the Month.
- b. Taylor Haigler recognized the Bearcat Shop as the August Office Spotlight.
- c. Taylor Haigler proposed Senate bylaw changes, reflecting the name change in “Disability Services” to “Student Accessibility and Testing Services” and “Orientation Programs” to “Campus Engagement and New Student Programs”. Jeff Reynolds motioned to approve the changes, and along with a second from Grant Stone, the bylaw changes were approved.

IX. Adjournment

- a. Katheirne Lukas motioned to adjourn the meeting. Awaili Thomas-Quarles seconded the motion, and the meeting ended at 10:35am.

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