

Staff Senate Minutes

March 13, 2024 1:15 p.m.

Rathskeller Loft, University Union

**Senators Present:** Ke’an Armstrong, Curt Ayers, Andrea Beals, Mary Brown, Maggie Burkhead, Matt Cobble, Melissa Coleman, Tony Craven, Lynn Griesemer, Kristin Hupp, Tina Jenkins, Kristi Keck, Michelle Morgan, Shawn Peoples, Kim Pope, Michelle Wayne, Catie Witt-Danner

**Senators Absent:** Jon McKenzie

**Guests:** none

**Approval of Minutes** – Senator Peoples motioned, Senator Pope 2nd.

**Executive Officer Reports**

1. Treasurer’s Report – *$325.83 in the Gift Account; $2,000 in the Appropriated Account for more shout out cards*
2. Secretary Report – No report
3. Vice President Report – No report
4. President’s Report – No report

**Committee Reports**

1. **Personnel Policies, Benefits, and Welfare Committee** 
   1. Parking Appeals Subcommittee – No report
   2. Parking Advisory Committee – No report
   3. Environmental Health and Safety Subcommittee – No report
2. **Budget and Planning Committee** 
   1. CUPB – *The Governor has proposed a 2% increase in higher ed funding. President’s Council is discussing tuition & fees for next year. An increase to the Panther Shuttle Fee has been proposed along with shifting to a smaller vehicle which won’t require a CL driver. The Dean of Students search has started. CUPB will meet on April 12th, not the 5th and will not meet in May.*
   2. University Naming Subcommittee – No report
   3. Campus Master Plan Committee – No report
3. **Liaison Committee** 
   1. University Union Advisory Subcommittee – No report
   2. Staff/Faculty Senate Relations Subcommittee – No report
4. **Elections Committee** – *3 positions are opening: 1 each from Non-negotiated Trades, Non-negotiated Civil Service, & AFSCME 981; nominations are due April 3, elections will be held April 24th.*
5. **Ad Hoc Committees**
   1. Staff Recognition/Development Committee – *Working to gather data on how many shout out cards are actually being used.*
   2. Constitution Review Committee – No report
6. **Constituent Reports** 
   1. Administrative and Professional – No report
   2. Non-negotiated Civil Service – *Voting on revisions to Civil Service Council Constitution; the scholarship deadline has been moved to May 1.*
   3. Non-negotiated Trades – No report
   4. Negotiated Trades – *Reminder that the electrical outage is this Saturday at 6am; there will be a masonry project by the library starting next week; a large dumpster will be by Old Main.*
   5. AFSCME 981 – *The new agreement has been ratified and will go before the BOT at their April meeting.*
   6. UPD – *The gravel lot by SSB is closed to parking and a bid has been put out to tear down the smokestack on the old steam plant; CRASE training will be held April 11 – used to be Alice training.*
   7. Contract Appt or Grant Funded – No report
   8. Minority Report – *Over 500 guests attended the IL Trio Day held in McAfee; April is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month – several events are scheduled. Student Life has been doing Food Truck Fridays.*
   9. EAC Report – “*There was some discussion around the request of HRDAC wanting to potentially change the “Rule of 3” to expand the number of people that can be interviewed for civil service positions. EAC felt there was not yet enough data to make any recommendations or statements, and so EAC has requested additional data. There has also been discussion around making the U of I System Office its own place of employment. EAC is not supportive of this change as it would affect promotion/bumping/seniority rights within the U of I system.” – received via email from Lindsay Partlow*
      1. Following was discussion among Senators about how credentials are being assessed & that supervisors are not being consulted about incoming potential candidates. The concern is that potential candidates are being turned away or not being scored appropriately.
7. **Liaison Reports** 
   1. Student Senate – No report
   2. Faculty Senate – No report
   3. VPBA Report – *“Reminder that the University will host a Strategic plan update on March 26th at 2pm. The City of Charleston will be installing traffic calming devices (speed bumps) at 4th St near the Stevenson pedestrian crossing in the near future. Remember there is an electrical outage this weekend (Saturday) across campus. EIU has rolled out a new EIU scholarship site eiu.edu/scholarships. Check it out. Annual Cybersecurity Training is ongoing. Please complete this before March 31st. The launch of the new facilities work order system, TMA, has been a little delayed. We are now hoping for the end of April. The annual reporting for the Statement on Economic Interest has been submitted. Individuals who are required to respond will receive notification. Please pay attention to that and respond. There are financial penalties from the state if you fail to respond. EIU electricians have completed the installation of all the new atomic clocks in the classrooms across campus. Most of the remaining Visiplex clocks will be removed in the coming months. Recent updates by the CDC are noted in the most recent EIU newsletter. A 5-day quarantine period is no longer required. As always, if you do not feel well, please stay home and get better. There are several projects happening on our campus over Spring Break. Please be patient and cautious in work areas. Parking lots that are slated for summer improvements include: lot south of Coleman, Lantz South lots both upper and lower, lot east of Doudna, 7th St roadway from Lincoln to DFAC, Old Main circle drive, X lot south (visitors). The Facilities Reinvestment Committee is still negotiating with a firm to conduct a facilities condition assessment of EIU facilities. We are really close and hope that this work can begin soon.” – via email from Matt Bierman*
8. **Unfinished Business**
   1. *Discussion was held about the planned Larry Shobe Memorial Garden – still being planned.*
   2. *Discussion was held concerning the need for a better system to track usage of the Shout Out cards.*
9. **New Business**
   1. No report

**Adjourned 2:14 pm**