



Staff Senate Minutes

October 7, 2014

Call to Order 3:34 pm

Attendance

Sue Denoyer, Sharon Price, Elayne Kuletz, Dona Vasas, Heather Mercer, Brandon Neish, Crystal Granger Ross, Megan Habermann, and Elizabeth Van Ert were present. Jennifer Keen, William McBeth, and Christopher Solario were absent.

Approve Agenda

Brandon moved to approve the agenda which was seconded by Heather. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Approve Minutes

No minutes were available from the June 2014 meeting to approve.

Reports:

Shared Governance Meeting Report

Elayne shared the presidential committee invites have been sent out and there will soon be a website to share information. It was asked whether staff senate should ask for a private meeting forum to propose what we feel is important qualities in our future president. It was agreed by several members that this was a good idea. The new governing board training will be on October 8th. Mark Weiss mentioned that WOU's immediate challenge is affordability. WOU focuses on Oregonians but that focus needs to shift and we will need to bring in more out of state and international students. Elayne mentioned asking Mark to our meetings.

Faculty Senate Report

Laurie Burton is currently president. There is no new information to report. Sharon will work on getting minutes from Laurie.

ASC Report

There is no new information to report. Heather will work on getting minutes.

Student Senate Report

There is no new information to report. Crystal will work on getting minutes.

Megan mentioned that we should consider having a representative at the governing board meetings.

Old Business

Welcome Wolves – Megan shared her Google form with the group. It was discussed that it would be a good idea to have a paper form for new employees at new employee orientation. Megan will also add some wording to further narrow down who a new employee may want to be paired with.

Website – Brandon and Elayne currently have access to make changes to the website. However, Elayne has made items available on Google drive so if someone adds documents they will be added to the website. It was mentioned that changes will be much easier when WOU moves to a new website early next year. Access will be much easier to grant and the application is much more user friendly.

Staff Survey – Brandon is going to put the survey into an online tool. He currently has it saved as a Word document. We are tentatively shooting for the beginning of November to make the survey available. We will work with the physical plant, dining, and custodial to make sure those without computer access have an opportunity to complete the survey. It was suggested that drop box sites would also be nice.

New Business

Senate Bylaws – This was tabled because the most recent updates have not been printed. Heather believes she made the changes and will make them available. Megan moved and Brandon 2nd. Passed 9-0-0.

Meeting times – Some members have difficulty making late afternoon meetings. It was discussed to possibly change the meetings to every other Thursday at 9 am. Elayne will gather further input.

Newsletter – Brandon volunteered to create the staff senate newsletter once per term.

WOU Presidential Search – See notes from shared communications meeting above. Heather also mentioned that hopefully staff senate will have a voice for what we would like to see in a president.

Oregon University System – Heather mentioned that currently retirement and benefits have to stay the same. It is understood that the staff fee benefit will remain in effect at least through June 30, 2014.

Staff Development – We will collect information from our survey but collectively we feel it is our role to make suggestions to human resources but not to offer staff development opportunities.

Announcements

Elayne mentioned that headshots will be available on October 15th. Heather mentioned that if employees choose the lowest cost choice plan for healthcare we will only pay 3% of our pay for those benefits instead of 5%.

Adjourn

4 :37 pm Brandon moves and Elayne 2nds. Passed 8-0-0 (Sharon Price left the meeting early.

Attendance

Sue Denoyer	
Sharon Price	
Jennifer Keen	
Elayne Kuletz	
Dona Vasas	
Heather Mercer	
William McBeth	
Brandon Neish	
Crystal Granger Ross	
Megan Habermann	
Elizabeth Van Ert	
Christopher Solario	