

# Staff Senate Agenda

February 17, 2026 (2:00-3:30pm)

Meeting location - Calapooia Room in the Werner University Center 130

<https://wou.edu/ces/conference-and-event-services/meeting-spaces/werner-university-center/22870-2/>

## Welcome

- Conversation opportunities for personal and professional updates with guests and Senators

## Staff Senate follows Simplified Robert's Rules

- Under simplified rules, it allows for a little less formal communication, still providing everyone opportunities to bring forth their ideas.

## Approval of this agenda

- Approval as is, additions, or adjustments must be approved

## Approval of past meeting minutes

- February 3 Minutes in the shared drive and ready for approval

## Guest Speakers

## Reports

- Committee Reports
  - Shared Governance
    - Next Meeting: March 11, 2026
  - President's Cabinet
    - Discussion around budget realities and strategies
      - SOU financial challenges
        - A report was given that cash flow and reserves may run out
      - Lobby Day
        - Importance of supporting higher education; 60 participants signed up
      - Legislative actions and ramifications
  - University Council
    - Peer Comparator Update Presentation (Judy Sylva and Jessica Murfin)
    - Budget Process and Tools (Camarie Moreno)
  - Other - Administrative Equity, Staff Connections, University Advisory Committees, etc.

## Vice President's Corner

- Other shared governance information, elections, reminders, etc.
- Recruitment for Staff Senate
  - Classified vacant seat - still looking (please reach out if you have questions)

# Staff Senate Agenda

continued...

## Secretary/Treasurer's Updates

- Financial, business-related, fun facts, random questions, etc.

## Unfinished Business

- Discussing SMART Goals and Strategies for 2025-2026
  - Scholarship strategy - payroll deduction for forty staff asking for \$5 [drive] will be incorporated with Giving Day, and can be done beforehand too.
  - Establishing ways to enhance cross-communication among staff regarding the different areas of change, efficiencies, training, feedback, and data collection survey
    - How can we continue to advise and make recommendations to the university president on matters relevant to staff for the overall success of the university without input?
    - Dr. Peter's listed it out, "...we are always open to ideas and suggestions. We want to hear what is going well, but we also want to know what challenges people are facing."
    - Also with his statement in mind, "We have shifted systems, revised how we do our work, implemented a new strategic plan, implemented an equity action plan, changed recruiting strategies and marketing, achieved reaccreditation, engaged in new ways with communities, and opened a new student success center."
    - It seems to be a moment when it is okay to assess where we may be in the [cycle of change](#). (This is not an endorsement of the specific model, just an example of stages within change that seemed easy to look through.)
  - A conversation to hear if staff are still hesitant in providing honest, direct, or maybe not in alignment with the original direction feedback, survey ideas?
    - Feedback can cause discomfort or awkwardness
    - Culture is driven through moments of truth
    - It is part of the Staff Senate's mission to "Promote positive, respectful, and constructive dialogue among staff, faculty, administrators, and students."
    - Perhaps this is just something of lore, which is why we are asking.

## New Business

- Discussion around "Strengthening the Pack -- Looking Forward" email sent out on Tuesday, February 10th.
- March 17, 2026 - Recruitment event, 2:00-3:30 pm, ideas?

## Announcements and Reminders

- Announcements
  - Digital Accessibility Requirements 101
    - Newsletter section with a Did you know? And the tip of the week
    - WOU digital accessibility training underway

## Staff Senate Agenda

continued...

- Agenda item suggestions can be made to [staffsenate@wou.edu](mailto:staffsenate@wou.edu) or [wou.edu/staffsenate](http://wou.edu/staffsenate)
- Important Training Reminders
  - Business Office
    - Campus-Wide Trainings- Watch for emails from Cheri Darby and Sandra Holland
  - Check out the @WOU Newsletter for more optional events, departmental updates, and training opportunities
- Kudos/Recognition
- Public Comments - Anything for the good of the order?

### Upcoming

- Next meeting: March 3, 2026, @ 2 pm
  - Werner University Center (WUC) room 130
  - Guest: TBD

### Adjourn