

Staff Senate Agenda

April 7, 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

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

Guest Speakers

- Judy Sylva - Associate Provost for Academic Effectiveness and Jessica Murfin - Partnerships & Strategic Initiatives Specialist: The Office of Academic Effectiveness will present on the upcoming site visit from NWCCU, covering relevant talking points and key actions to prepare.

Reports

- Committee Reports
 - Shared Governance
 - Discussion around service to the University
 - Challenges for each area, staff, faculty, and students
 - President's Cabinet
 - Financial Aid Updates - Kella Helyer, Director of Financial Aid
 - Several changes to the structure of PELL and Loan programs
 - "Freedom of Expression" Policy review [GL-01-004 Freedom of Expression Policy](#)
 - Members of the campus community may submit public comments on each draft policy by [visiting the Pending Policies webpage](#) and filling out a public comment.
 - Marketing Presentation, Maureen Brakke, Executive Director, Marketing & Communications
 - Redesign of the WOU website and many other initiatives
 - University Council
 - Next Meeting: June 10, 2026
 - Other - Administrative Equity, Staff Connections, University Advisory Committees, etc.

Staff Senate Agenda

continued...

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)

Secretary/Treasurer's Updates

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

Unfinished Business

- Discussing SMART Goals and Strategies for 2025-2026
 - March 17, 2026, 2:00-3:00 pm staff feedback event, "Food for your thoughts."
 - Feedback on feedback event

New Business

- Election cycle for the Staff Senate Executive Committee in April and the Staff Senate Senator seats in May
 - Recruitment event ideas and schedules
 - Marketing improvements for recruitment

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
 - Agenda item suggestions can be made to staffsenate@wou.edu or 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: April 21, 2026, @ 2 pm
 - Werner University Center (WUC) room 130
 - Guest: KB - Vice President of Financial Affairs: discuss the budget reduction plans

Adjourn