

**THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA**

**STAFF SENATE**

**(NORMAN CAMPUS)**

**Wednesday, January 20, 2021**

Chair Crystal Ary called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

*Officers present* – Crystal Ary, Chair; Justin Daniels, Chair-Elect; Kristi Wright, Recording Secretary

*Officers absent* – Sarah Connelly, Immediate Past Chair

*Staff present* – Melissa Lane, Administrative Coordinator

*Representatives present* – Hourly Employees Council: Paul Box, Jessica Rossman, Ross Mehl, Joe Northcutt, Jen Elsner, Terri Smith; Sharrie Sanders Informational Staff Association: Christine Young, Daniel Deering, Elaine Bradshaw; Organizational Staff Council: Rhonda Hill, Anjanette Pierce, Betty Love; Administrative Staff Council: Heather Todd, Andrea Flores

*Representatives absent* — Hourly Employees Council: Tanya Miller Eager, Will O'Donnell, Judy Estes, Karla Pitre, David Kizer,; Informational Staff Association: Corey Helms; Organizational Staff Council: Steven Hanger, Jenny Lang, Julia Rouse

*Guests* — Robin Stroud, Debra Levy Martinelli, Matthew Rom, Diana Fitzpatrick, Leslie Vennoch, Alexia Aston, Shannon Overstreet, Alisa West Cahill, Katherine McRae, Kelly Thompson, Chris Cook, Patrick McClain, Katie Bayliss, Loy Macari, Rusanna Hardesty, Amber Williams, and Cathy Yeaman

**SPEAKER**

Stewart Berkinshaw

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF December 16, 2020**

On a motion by Ross Mehl, the minutes of the December 16, 2020, Staff Senate meeting were accepted by an email majority vote.

**CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Good Afternoon, I hope everyone's break was restful and peaceful!

Staff Senate has been quiet since our last meeting. I do want you all to know that the call for Merit Award Nominations did go out last week, please encourage your departments to nominate staff for these awards.

Also, a vaccine email went out requesting appointments to be made for staff over the age of 65. If you are interested in receiving the vaccine but did not receive an email to register, please let me know I can forward the email along.

Any questions?

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

**REPORTS FROM MEMBER GROUPS**

**Administrative Staff Council and Informational Staff Council:** President Heather Todd and Christine Young reported that their guest speaker was Marcy Fleming, Director of HR Systems, talked about the new PeopleSoft system. She showed us how to access self-service, pooled positions, adding pay or funding changes. ISA's Secret Santa: Several donations were sent, but unable to provide an exact amount b/c individuals contacted CAB directly. ISA and ASC plan to update their websites.

**Hourly Employees Council:** President Paul Box reported that the committee filled a vacancy in Group IV with Carson Working. The committee continued the conversation on the Shared Leave Policy and the possibility of having Jami Houston (Chair) of the Shared Leave Policy Committee visit with HEC on concerns that have been brought up. Also, other discussions were brought up about moral boosters for the staff campus-wide. We closed the meeting with a short interactive session for the entire committee to participate in.

**Organizational Staff Council:** President Rhonda Hill reported that Lindsay Mitchell was our guest speaker for January and Lindsay discussed the LiveWell OU program. President Rhonda Hill thanked the Operation Comfort and Joy volunteers and the OSC Treasurer for all their work with OCJ. We were able to provide support for all nine staff members. We received \$3,375 in donations plus an additional \$1,200 from a donor that covered the cost for one staff member's car repairs and four families were adopted. Rhonda announced that we need 1-3 volunteers from OSC to be on the Merit Award Selection Committee. We also need volunteers to organize guest speakers for a few of our spring meetings.

#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

**Awards Committee:** By email, Chair Liz Cooley reported that they did not meet.

**Communications Committee:** By email, Chair Dalton Brasington reported that they did not meet.

**Staff Initiatives Committee:** By email, Chair Jami Houston reported that Work continues on 3 main initiatives:  
Shared Leave (Survey to staff is in development, to be reviewed in February)  
Bereavement Leave proposal (committee will review the proposal in February)  
Staff Tuition Waiver – looking at ways to better clarify and promote benefit to staff

**Staff Week Committee:** Chair Terri Smith reported that they did not meet.

#### REPORTS OF SPECIAL AD HOC COMMITTEES

**Policy Review Ad Hoc Committee:** Chair Justin Daniels said that the committee continues to review and discuss the best possible structure of the Staff Senate. Hope to have something completed in the next few months.

#### REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, AND BOARDS

**Employee Benefits Committee:** Matthew Rom reported the following:

The Employee Benefits Committee did not meet in December due to committee member availability and lack of agenda items. The January 2021 meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2021

#### OTHER REPORTS

*The following reports were linked to the January agenda:*

Staff Senate Foundation account report \$1,285.30

Minutes of Employment Benefits Committee meeting for August 2020

#### OLD BUSINESS

#### NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: February 17, 2021

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Lane  
Administrative Coordinator

Kristi Wright  
Recording Secretary