

Staff Employee Advocacy Council

Regular Council Meeting: November 10, 2021

Agenda

Attendance: See “2021–2022 Attendance” spreadsheet

Excused: Kristen Knoerzer, Justin Hunt, Doreen Olguin-Flores

- A. Welcome/Call to Order
- B. Approval of Minutes from October, 2021 **APPROVED**
- C. Executive Committee Report
 - a. Budget: **Starting Budget:** \$6,659.22
 - i. Staff Appreciation - Trunk or Treat: -\$126.25
 - ii. Professional Development - Mini Grants: -\$699.00
 - iii. **Remaining Budget:** \$5,833.97
 - b. Good meeting with Brian O’Rourke re: Newsletter *Will be able to send out communication but we’re not sure when the first email will be going out // will ask chairs to provide event dates to include in that communication*
 - c. Looking at guest speakers to invite in the future *Possibly Ryan Cole - Student Philanthropy; Jennifer Easthope - Retention*
- D. Administrative Meeting Report
 - a. Cancelled
 - b. Great job with Trick or Treat! It was a major success and the President’s Office wants to make that an annual event! *Thanks to all of you who helped set up, tear down, etc. Three awards will be distributed to those who won fan favorites (indicated below).*
- E. External Committee Reports
 - a. Campus Community Policy Committee (CCPC) — Brandi
 - i. There was no CCPC meeting for the month of November. However, there will be one on December 1. Topics for discussion will include:
 - ii. The 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic calendars that we will have to review.
 - iii. CCPC was a topic of conversation about its relevance and place in the overall university governance structure, so we will talk about that, as well.
 - b. University Council — Jess
 - i. Ryan Bye, Director of Student Involvement & New Student Programs, spoke to the group about MyValpo
 - ii. Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics is drafting an athletics diversity action plan to add to the campus wide diversity action agenda

- iii. Faculty Senate created two resolutions: a resolution on mask mandates that recommended masking in indoor campus spaces and a resolution celebrating the good work of the Confucius Institute, Senate voted to temporarily suspend the Honor Council constitution in order to revise language, and Senate created an ad hoc called “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Tenure and Promotion,” the goal of which will be to research and recommend policies and practices aimed at reducing bias in tenure and promotion processes
 - iv. Student Senate held a We Matter Week town hall meeting in partnership with BSO and is going to be reviewing our internal structure this semester, including our bylaws and committees
 - v. GSAC elected Chair (Leeann Wright) and Vice Chair (Chloe Kiser)
 - vi. CCPC is trying to determine if their committee should stay active
 - c. Investment Oversight — Justin
 - i. Justin’s name has been put in for review
- F. Chief of Staff — Rebekah Arevalo
 - a. Ask why SEAC Employee of the Month isn’t used for staff recognition during VU town halls
 - b. Recent town hall overview
 - i. Bryan O’Rourke - Enrollment & Marketing Strategy Discussion
 - ii. Susan Scroggins - Video about Audit Outcomes/Budget Projections
 - iii. Darron Farha - 403b/Open Enrollment (started Nov 8th)
 - iv. President Padilla talked about faculty and staff accomplishments, campus community communication plan, and what’s to come
- G. Internal Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Representation — David
 - i. No meeting
 - ii. Executive decision not to have midterm elections // waiting to have a quality election come March 2022
 - b. Staff Appreciation Events — Carrie
 - i. Trunk or Treat
 - 1. Winners
 - a. Fan favorite - Active Minds (student organization) to receive a pizza party
 - b. Most Creative - FM
 - c. Scariest - VUPD
 - d. Best Costume - Mike Jacob
 - ii. Santa

1. Mike and his wife Jennifer have agreed to play Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Tree Lighting event (Nov 30 5p)
- iii. Ice Skating event at Central Park -
 1. for staff and families
 2. Jan 23 (Sunday) from 6-10pm
- c. Staff Development — Chloe
 - i. Department Lunch & Learn Event - Tuesday, December 14th 11 AM - 1 PM in the Hearth Room (Harre Union)
 1. 6 departments participating
 2. Limited \$7.50/Founders lunch vouchers - sign up will go in Campus Chronicle starting next week
 - ii. Survey going out in Campus Chronicle about staff members wanting to participate in a professionals book club
 - iii. Planned out our other event dates/times for next semester
- d. Staff Recognition — Jennifer E.
 - i. Jennifer's calendar is broken, but we met! (Mon 11/8)
 1. Selected Oct. 2021 EOTM: (drum roll) - **Kaila Neasman**
 - a. Presentation: Wednesday, November 17th at 3:00pm
 - i. Meet in Provost Suite (Kretz. 103) at 2:55pm
 2. Parkhurst has graciously supplied us with another round of "golden tickets" - woo!
 3. We plan on sending tri-folds to faculty and staff after Christmas/winter break
 - a. Will go through Beacon/logo options
 - b. Committee will work on wording and advertisement on the other side of the tri-fold
- e. New Employee — Ryan
 - i. Have not met since last meeting. We will be meeting soon.
- f. VAST — Brandi
 - i. HR will need to have a leading role in providing job descriptions. Scott Harrison has a meeting scheduled with Darron Farha, Deondra Devitt, and Rebekah Arevalo next week to discuss the topic. He will get back with you after our meeting.
- g. Compassionate Leave — Jess
 - i. Shared rough draft with Melanie Trowbridge, Tamara Gingerich, Scott Harrison, Deondra Devitt, and Darron Farha
 - ii. Darron Farha sent back corrections
 - iii. It's now in the final round of edits before officially presenting to HR
- h. Faculty/Staff/Student Relations — Chloe

- i. Planning a mixer for SEAC, Faculty Senate, and Student Senate members (TBD)

H. Old Business

I. New Business

a. Secretary Election

- i. Michael Beaver was nominated - accepts nomination
- ii. Michael Beaver was elected!

J. Announcements

a. Our next meeting will take place December 8, 2021

- i. 2:30 to 4:30 in the Harre Union Brown & Gold Room

b. Generosity week is coming up and the award ceremony is on Sun but it's invite only

c. Blood drive on November 16th

d. United Way campaign starting soon and happening through the end of November

K. Adjournment