

STAFF SENATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**5/12/26****In Person, Union 332****Agenda****I. Call to Order 2:01pm****II. Roll Call / Welcome New Senators!****III. VOTE to Approve Previous Meeting's Minutes (4/14/26) motion to approve, seconded.
None opposed****IV. Guest Speakers****A. Dr. Mike McPherson, Provost**

- **Changes in Academic Affairs**

1. Reorganization of college from departmental structure to broader structure; will be discussed within each college on how best to do this.

2. **Q&A**

- (1) Shelley: How do you see the end of the process happening?

- (a) MM: Doesn't see as a "one size fits all"; larger colleges may not change as much, but smaller colleges may be consolidating, etc.

- (2) Phillip: Concerns about taking away pathways for students that have other degree needs/concerns and may not want a program consolidated with Business, etc.

- (a) MM: Intention is not to take away any CMHT degrees as these degrees align with what

- (3) Linda: What does Frisco look like within the next 5 years?

- (a) MM: He thinks Frisco will lead the way and is the big opportunity for UNT, thinks much of what is happening at Frisco will be brought to Denton campus as well. In next CCAP session, will likely be requesting a new building at Frisco; will be discussions of what building should be. He imagines it will be focused on Health Sciences and Executive and Health education. Getting that building built will set us up well in Frisco

- (4) Dave: Some changes come out of nowhere and impacts International department greater than some others. What considerations are being given to these decisions and their stakeholders as well as what thought is being given to have them prepare for the changes?

- (a) MM: We are all obviously stretched very thin, and higher ed is changing quickly. Agility and being able to pivot quickly is good, but too much of it will cause mistakes to be made. Pace of changes is likely to slow in the coming years. President Keller does not like to change just for the sake of change. He is interested in deliberation and a process that works, and MM thinks we will get to that.

- (5) Shelley: What does the future look like for you?
 - (a) MM: He will take a month-2 month break while successor takes over and spend time with his wife.
- (6) Phillip: In the past few months with all the reorganization, can you share the data used for these reorganizations with some staff members to use when speaking with students and parents to explain reasons why things are happening?
 - (a) MM: There is a website that has the data on it, he will send link. This is publically available (<https://strategicplan.unt.edu/data/index.html>). High time to value doesn't mean it's a "bad" program, but suggests that there is perhaps something that can be done within the curriculum to reduce time to value (i.e. certificate programs, etc.).

B. Sue Aichele, Human Resources – Not present, will submit questions via email for her to answer

C. Cassandra Nash, AVP Facilities

- Hoping to do a "listening tour" this summer, starting with Facilities, meeting with staff, end users, etc. If there is anything you are concerned about or want to talk about, reach out to her. Wants to put together a path for Facilities and how they can work better with others on campus.
- Wants to work on communication from Facilities via websites, email, software, etc. to better communicate what's happening in Facilities
- One Team/Collaboration: CN stated she is good at bringing people together, wants everyone to function as one big team moving forward
 - 1. Linda: are you planning to come to UNT Frisco?
 - (1) CN: Yes! Went yesterday, met with Michael Savoie to discuss building maintenance and planning
 - (2) Rachel M.: What is on your radar as Facilities biggest, most immediate needs?
 - (a) CN: Over 50% of UNT buildings are over 50 years old. Will likely be investing in the older buildings and deferred maintenance is adjusted. This is very important point, especially from BOR view. Will be meeting with departments to find their needs.
 - (3) Senator: Will there be some buildings that are prioritized?
 - (a) CN: Building assessments done, but need to be refreshed. Also looking at space utilization and how well it is meeting needs of the function of the building. Prioritization is based on these and several different factors.

D. Jeanette Garriga, President's Office Liaison

- Biannual staff lunch – Wednesday, June 10 Union 314, 11:30-1, remarks begin at 12. lunch will be served, but feel free to bring sack lunch if you prefer.

V. Constituency Concerns

A. Call for New Constituent Concerns

- Phillip: Has emailed Sue already; with CMHT going to RCOB, encountered issue where student found internship on campus, but being restricted to 20

hours per week because they are enrolled in internship class. UNT International says this is not a federal rule, but a UNT rule, does not seem to meet the needs of the student. To meet intern regulations, student must work more than 20 hours per week.

- Chido: Staff wanted to know if the President/HR is thinking of helping staff especially since fuel costs have risen significantly, to help alleviate staff concerns and worry.
 1. Alex: Nothing currently in the works at this time. At last Exec Committee meeting, HK brought up staff pay, specifically said the current goal (and wanted us to keep him accountable for) was to raise staff to current TWC livable wages by 2030. He (HK) is also looking into compensation study to give more concrete details
- Senator: As someone who serves on search committees, still hiring people while other positions are vacant; salaries are higher than people currently in same positions with higher qualifications. Concerned about compression.
 1. Jenna: HK mentioned compression specifically, raising in phases so that current employees match (or more closely match) new employees.

VI. Officer Reports

- A. Chair Report – Alex Ames (he/him/his)
 - Staff Senate awards given
- B. Chair-Elect Report – Jenna Schuster (she/her/hers)
 - No report
- C. Secretary Report – Christina Rucker
 - No report
- D. Treasurer Report – Nikki Sparks
 - No report
- E. Communications Report – Walker Smart
 - Not present
- F. Parliamentarian Report – Christian Bridge
 - None
- G. Assessment Coordinator Report – Tsubasa Tajima – not present
- H. Past-Chair Report – Brittany Landau (she/her/hers)
 - Customer service update: Met with consultant and went over reports. She will stay on committee for foreseeable future

VII. Standing Committee Chair Reports

- A. Communications and Public Relations – Shelby Simmons -none
- B. Membership and Assessment – Nicole Habern -none
- C. Staff Success – Cheyenne Moore / Laderica Paul
 - Cheyenne: one last lunch and learn on 5/27 with Amanda Fisher: 5 Languages of Workplace Appreciation. Lunch for in person, register on Bridge. Can attend virtually as well.

VIII. University Committee Updates

- A. Call for University Committee Updates

- Phillip: Needs to pass on Faculty Senate liaison roll; per Jenna will call for committee volunteers at next general assembly.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

A. Executive Committee Elections

- Chair-Elect
 1. **Nikki Sparks** (pre-nominated): accepted nomination
 2. Christina (pre-nominated): accepted nomination
 3. No in person nominations
- Parliamentarian
 1. **Phillip Aguinaga** (pre-nominated): Accepted nomination
 2. Karl: (pre-nominated): not present, unable to accept
 3. No in-person nominations.
- Secretary
 1. **Cheyenne Moore** (pre-nominated): Accepted nomination
 2. Mallory (pre-nominated): declined nomination
 3. No in-person nominations
- Treasurer
 1. **Jeffrey Kam** (pre-nominated): Accepted nomination
 2. No in-person nominations
- Communications Coordinator
 1. Walker Smart (pre-nominated): Not present, unable to accept
 2. **Shelley Schaffer** (floor nominee): accepted self nomination
- Assessment Coordinator
 1. **Hannah Kronenberger** (floor nominee): accepted self nomination

XI. Announcements

A. Standing Committee Assignments

- Decide on Committee Chairs

XII. Adjournment / Dismissal to Standing Committees

Adjorn: 3:23pm