



STAFF SENATE MEETING

February 11, 2020

3:00 PM – Union 332 Senate Chambers

Meeting Minutes

Officers Present: Charlotte Cooke, Chair-Elect; Katie McCoy, Past Chair; Megan Cunningham, Secretary/Treasurer; Allison Peeler, Parliamentarian; Lisa Cuevas, Communications Coordinator.

Senators Present: Aaron Anderson, Alexis Guess, Alisha Carter Harris, Amanda Bennett, Amy Ferman, Audra O’Neal, Chris Cunningham, Corey Davidson, Craig Howard, Devin Axtman, Emily Gautraud, Erin McKinnis, Jesse McBroom, Karen Goss, Latrice Owens Moore, Liz Berry, Louise Dunn, Monique Scales, Stephanie McDonald, Stephen Tudor.

Guests Present: Dani Valdez, Alvin Roberts, Chris Phelps, Nick Holsomback, Jason Zorola, Sarah Westbrook, Tiffany Miller.

I. Call to Order (5 minutes): 3:06 PM

II. Speakers/Presentations (20 minutes)

- i. Chris Phelps, Director Parking and Transportation Services
 - a) UNT Transportation Services strives to be a good partner and smart financial steward for our community and the university’s resources.
 - b) We try to help you make better choices.
 - c) We provide a number of bus routes in and out of the campus funded by students’ payment.
 - d) We provide e-ride services, Veoride for rental bicycles and partner with Zipcar for rental cars.
 - e) Some parking spaces were lost due to construction, but a number of parking spaces have been added.

- f) In the past two years, UNT has built two new parking lots. Victory and Fouts field/Lot 20 have increased to approximately 1200 spots.
- g) Parking is more available on the borders of campus.
- h) Why not garages? Garages typically cost triple or quadruple the cost of parking lots.
- i) Permit and Citation funds help pay our transit deficit.
- j) Texas state law provides that parking money can't come from tuition or a fee like transit.
- k) We meet six times in a year, three times in fall and 3 times in spring.
- l) We are currently not recommending a rate increase.
- m) We are always looking for a better way of capturing data and maximizing technology.
- n) Erin McKinnis - What is going on with parking at IHOP?
 - (1) Chris - Regarding parking at IHOP, a few buildings are coming down. Not aware of the full scope of the plans for that area, but there no plans at the moment to build additional parking there at the moment.
- o) Louise Dunn - Would you say that we are in a deficit of parking spaces especially with increased enrollment?
 - (1) Chris - Right now, there are more parking spaces than people need. Inventory wise, we are in good shape but the problem is in maximizing that. We are trying to work out how people can park in distant lots and get rides to their destination on campus without embarking on a "sightseeing tour" before they get to their location. We have parking but not the service to balance it out.
- p) Allison Peeler - What are the rules about construction staff parking in staff and faculty spots?
 - (1) Chris - They are supposed to park in Lot 35 and shuttle in. For smaller projects, Facilities give them a daily tag but they are not meant to use students' parking. Let us know if you see anything more long term.
- q) Allison Peeler - Do you have a more interactive website we can use?
 - (1) Chris - No we don't at the moment.
- r) Craig Howard - Would you consider a thirty minute loading permit to allow people to get supplies in and out?
 - (1) Chris - Send us an email and ask for what options there are, and we will help you out. Depending on the location, we will have a different solution. We will do our best to support you.
- s) Audra O'Neal – What's the likelihood of putting a shuttle in Mean Green Village?

(1) Chris - In order to put a shuttle there, it has to be from somewhere else. There has been a lot of growth out there but right now, I'd have to take out service from somewhere else to put on that route. Our challenge now is the funding. There used to be a bus there in past, but it was removed when we cut about 90,000 hours of bus service because we couldn't fund it.

III. Consent Agenda Discussion Items (10 minutes)

i. Ad Hoc and University Committees

ii. Vote to approve

a) Jesse McBroom moved to approve, Allison peeler seconded - motion passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes

i. No discussion.

a) Stephanie McDonald moved to approve, Alisha Carter Harris seconded - motion passed, minutes approved.

V. Constituency Concerns (5 minutes)

i. The donation bin outside the University Services Building is blocking visibility and needs to be relocated.

ii. Need to situate yard signs in approved locations to avoid accidents. A student was cut by a yard sign recently.

a) Student Affairs make the regulations for the situating of yard signs around campus.

VI. Officer Reports (10 minutes)

i. Chair Report – Suzan Cruz (absent)

a) No report.

ii. Chair-Elect Report – Charlotte Cooke

a) Staff Appreciation month is in March.

(1) We will need people to sign up to help out with the activities.

(2) There are plans to organize a scavenger hunt as part of the Staff Appreciation Week activities

(3) Anybody who can teach a skill should contact Anh Le Palomino in HR.

b) Texas Retirement Systems (TRS) is back up and staff can see their report up to 2019.

c) We are hoping to have the Active Shooter Training next month. It will be held in the smaller ballroom in the University Union, or the Lyceum.

- iii. Budget Report – Megan Cunningham
 - a) Our spending so far has been on Lunch and Learns.
 - b) We are making arrangements to buy some swag. Let us know if you have any great swag ideas.

- iv. Communications Report – Lisa Cuevas
 - a) We are currently updating the website and checking broken links.
 - b) We would appreciate Senators sending any revisions before Wednesday for the newsletter.

- v. Parliamentarian Report – Allison Peeler
 - a) No report.
 - b) It would be great if we made it a priority to participate in Staff Senate events. They are great opportunities to show that we exist and that we are here to support.

VII. Staff Senate Committee Reports (10 minutes) -- these meetings will be held after the general meeting

- i. Communications and Public Relations
 - a) A breakdown of Staff Senate social media data:
 - (1) Facebook- Followers: 546, Daily Page Engaged Users: 249, Posts: 27, Negative Feedback: 0, Top Post: January 17
 - (2) Twitter- Followers: 1,188, Link Clicks: 7, Posts: 10, Retweets: 1, Likes: 9,
 - b) Our goal as a group is to increase our followers on social media.
 - c) Like our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter, and like/share/comment on SS posts to increase visibility.
 - d) If there are any events you would like to feature on social media, please email Lisa Cuevas and Erin McKinnis.

- ii. Bylaws and Elections
 - a) Staff Senate General Elections - Call for nominations will be held before spring break.
 - b) We are working on a new procedure for the inclusion of the new administrative unit.
 - c) Devin Axtman proposed an amendment to the Staff Senate Procedures as follows:
 - (1) *New administrative unit is created.*
 - (2) *HR shall supply the list of employees within the new administrative unit.*

- (3) The number of new Staff Senators for the new unit will be determined.*
- (4) Elections and Bylaws Committee will work with the new administrative unit to develop an election to fill the vacancy within 90 days or at the next regular election.*
- (5) Any changes to existing administrative unit sizes will be reflected in the number of Senators elected during the next regular election. All currently elected Senators will complete their terms.*

d) All voted in favor of the amendment.

iii. Policy and Benefits Committee

a) No report.

iv. Staff Development

a) There was a great turnout for the last Lunch and Learn and there were a lot of things to learn. EAP is a good topic to use recurrently.

(1) Next Lunch & Learn will be on Civility on Campus.

VIII. Old Business

i. Feedback on Senator Outreach

a) There have been challenges with scheduling meetings.

b) Audra O’Neal – Had some engagements with her constituents.

(1) Usually the same complaints about issues with signage and the smoke pit at Discovery Park.

IX. New Business

a) Meeting with President Smatresk. Suggestions for agenda items

(1) There were no suggestions but Senators were reminded that they could still reach out to EC members if they came up with suggestions later.

X. Announcements

a) Division of Equity and Diversity’s Annual Conference will be held on February 20, 2020.

(1) There will also be a career fair and a training on reporting sexual misconduct.

XI. Adjournment: 4:10 PM

a) Alisha Carter Harris moved to adjourn, Emily Gautraud seconded – Meeting adjourned.