

**STAFF SENATE MEETING**

March 9, 2021

3:00 – 5:00pm – Zoom Meeting

**Minutes****I. Call to Order at 3:04PM**

- a. **Officers Present:** Alexis Guess, Charlotte Cooke, Liz Berry, Amy Ferman, Suzan Cruz
- b. **Senators and Assistant Present:** Jesse McBroom, Erin McKinnis, Reginald Johnson, Benjamin Nye, Dakota Buchanan, Jakes Jackson, Julie Elliott, Robert Pearson, George Steiren, Samuel Wiggins, Maria Baylock, Rekha Nair, Amaya Spencer, Alexis Roberson, Ann Bartts, Adam Chavez, Joshua Sylve, Steven Tudor, Dana Sachs, Lauren Burton, Devin Axtman, Bella Zeitz
- c. **Guests Present:** Chelsea Bassett, Shani Barrax, Neal Smatresk, Maria Velaquez

**II. Consent Agenda Discussion Items – Approved**

- a. External Committees –
- b. Vote to approve-Sen. Pearson approves, Alexis Guess seconds

**III. Approval of Agenda & Minutes-** reached quorum for approval of minutes.**IV. Guest Speakers**

- a. Chelsea Bassett (she/her/hers), Director of Student Initiatives and Assessment
  - i. EAB Navigate-went live March 2020; System gives holistic approach to students where staff can see notes about prior meetings, situations, etc. Aim is to see more outcomes and help with retention and graduation #'s for undergraduates; but can be used for other areas.
  - ii. [Navigate@unt.edu](mailto:Navigate@unt.edu)- any concerns/questions can be sent here; can schedule trainings/consulting sessions
- b. Shani Barrax Moore (she/her/hers), Director of Diversity & Inclusion
  - i. Executive Summary of Campus Inclusion Climate Survey – brief synopsis <https://ied.unt.edu/climate-survey-results> -"statistically significant findings" (data NOT Stale)-done in 2018. The data desegregated by a number of different subgroups to identify problem areas and opportunities for growth and development.
  - ii. Hope that it will improve working relationships and environment for faculty staff and students and to enhance the classroom environment and co-curricular experiences of UN teach diverse student body and also

keeping in mind that many of us have staff are part of those co-curricular experiences.

- iii. Upcoming dates for open access full presentation, another AHA on topic will take place
- iv. To review Climate Survey Results <https://ied.unt.edu/climate-survey-results>
- c. Neal Smatresk (he/him/his), President, and Debbie Rohwer (she/her/hers), Vice President for Planning and Chief of Staff
  - i. SmartDollar program effective April 1st-this is serving as a heads up (E-mail communications in UNT Today and others coming our way) E-mail [Debbie.Rohwer@unt.edu](mailto:Debbie.Rohwer@unt.edu) with any questions
  - ii. UNT HSC has about 30% of Faculty and Staff use the service and approached collective savings of \$800k in a year. Goal to exceed UNT HSC.
  - iii. To assist in affordability in reducing their debt, prepare for retirement. Average family can reduce debt \$10k in the first year.
- d. Maria Velazquez (she/her/hers), HR Representative
  - i. TexFlex resolution-can e-mail [Lisa.Garner@untsystem.edu](mailto:Lisa.Garner@untsystem.edu) with issues about this
  - ii. Maternity Leave explanation – will get more information from HR Benefits. Only the 1<sup>st</sup> 6 weeks of maternity is used for sick leave for recovery.

## V. Constituency Concerns

- a. Senator Shellye Tow of GSC – doing similar things in terms of diversity and and inclusion.

## VI. Officer Reports

- a. Chair Report – Charlotte Cooke (she/her/hers)
  - i. Staff Appreciation Month update-encourage you to thank a staff member on the kudos board!  
<https://unt.kudoboard.com/boards/BNSpqkH2/thank-a-staff-member>
  - ii. Appreciation to the Senators for their efforts throughout the year.
  - iii. Kudos to Senator Julie Elliot for the weather seminar, and SAM sessions.
  - iv. Upcoming opportunities for Staff Appreciation Events – Service Awards 3/31
- b. Chair-Elect Report – Liz Berry (she/her/hers)
  - i. Committee Changes
    - 1. New reporting structure in Teams – feedback to Liz
    - 2. Ad Hoc for senate evaluation – Senators feedback
    - 3. Past orientation materials for committee review
- c. Secretary/Treasurer Report – Amy Ferman (she/her/hers)
  - i. \$556.90 for 3 Painting with a Twist sessions
- d. Communications Report – Alexis Guess (she/her/hers)
  - i. Newsletter deadline Wednesday at noon
  - ii. Consistent branding & Accessibility – in our newsletter, emails, website
- e. Parliamentarian Report – Allyson Gardner (she/her/hers)-nothing at this time

## **VII. Standing Committee Chair Reports**

- a. Communications and Public Relations – Erin McKinnis & Adam Chavez (he/him/his)
  - i. social media report – increased followers by 2
  - ii. In February, introduction of Staff Success Website – welcoming feedback
  - iii. Encourage to nominate people and provide resources.
  - iv. Increased Twitter followers by 11 due to the Staff Success media posts.
- b. Bylaws and Elections – Devin Axtman (he/him/him)
  - i. Filling vacancies in Finance & Admin and Enrollment Divisions.
  - ii. Sent nominations to HR for eligibility. Shortly will have elections
  - iii. General elections for next fall rolling out shortly with a timeline.
- c. Policy and Benefits Committee – Lee Davis (he/him/his) & Rob Pearson (he/him/his) – Sen. Rob Pearson spoke on their behalf
  - i. Looking into Door Dash service being something in available
  - ii. Brought concerns to HR rep, Maria, regarding exit interview process not consistent with offboarding process.
  - iii. Also question to Maria abouts ick pool donations during onboarding and offboarding. How can we reach to staff that needs it. Be careful of solicitation, guidelines, liabilities. – Form available to fill out to donate.
- d. Staff Development – George Stieren (he/him/his)
  - i. Rescheduled from winter storm upcoming AHA with Mary Atkins on Voluntary Retirement Savings in 3 weeks.
- e. Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion – Amaya Spencer (she/her/hers) – nothing today.

## **VIII. Old Business**

- a. None

## **IX. New Business**

- a. None

## **X. Announcements**

- a. Staff Appreciation Events

## **XI. Adjournment at 4:26 PM**

- i. Sen. Amaya Spencer-motion
- ii. Seconded – Senator Reginald Johnson

## **XII. Standing Committee Meetings**