



STAFF SENATE MINUTES

February 16, 2022 10:00 am Library Conference Room 622/Zoom

Attendees	Senators: Greg Andrews, James Beinkemper, Mallory Benedetto, Mystee Burrell, Fernando Cordova, Therese Filhiol-Secretary, Andrew Hardee-Parliamentarian, Joanna Hunter, Robyn Jordan, Meagan Morris, Meghan Olinger-Vice President/President Elect, Melissa Rhodes-President, Allison Thompson-Past President, Nicole Walker, Sara Webb, Hope Young	
	Visitors: Michael Camille, Kelli Cole, Sabrina McClain, Dana Mejia, Kelly Moravek, Jamie Norris	
Excused/Absent	Kristal Anzalone, Benji Buffington, Jimmy Waller	
Call to Order	February 2022 Staff Senate Meeting called to order by President Rhodes Roll taken by Secretary Filhiol and Parliamentarian Hardee Visitors were welcomed by President Rhodes	
Approval of Minutes	Motion was made by Senator Benedetto to approve the Minutes of the January 2022 meeting. Seconded by Senator Hunter.	
Departmental Updates	<p>Senator Young, Marketing & Communication –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign and update of each college and majors web pages, taking one major and college at a time. Two new people were hired in the summer to go through the website and look for areas that need editing. • A redesigned President’s web page was recently published. Working with IT to get the updates done. • Signage for COVID testing in the SUB has been installed to improve access. • Spring ULM magazine is in the works. • Staff photographer Sid Gaulee has moved to Texas, so they are looking for a replacement. • Senator Young is working on profiles of Trailblazers of ULM to be shared online (website and social media) during Black History Month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brandi Barber was the first African American crowned Miss ULM (1997). ○ Regina Carmon was the first African American Homecoming Queen (1976). ○ Dr. Clarice Isby was the first African American assistant professor and taught at ULM for 30 years. ○ Dr. Louis Nabors, Jr., Associate Professor of Music, was a world-renowned vocalist. <p>Senator Olinger, Student Affairs –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Hardee is now the SGA advisor. • Several activities and events were offered recently, including Foster the Flock Resource Fair, and Ties with ULM Guys and Sippin’ Tea with the VP, monthly social events that include a featured speaker. • Restructuring is ongoing with personnel changes. There are several open positions in the division. • Student Engagement is getting Spring Fever planned. • Equalizer (self-defense course) is scheduled for March 16-17 and April 13-14. <p>Senator Webb, Student Success Center –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advising starts March 7. • Evening times will be offered probably one night a week until registration opens. <p>Senator Thompson, Assessment & Evaluation –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelli Cole is moving to the College of Business & Social Sciences as the Program Coordinator for the High School Business Academy after 16 years in Assessment & Evaluation. 	

President Rhodes, Financial Aid –

- Working on two years simultaneously to get applications processed, awards loaded into Banner, and to send award letters.
- Continuing to award for Spring. Summer is a very hands-on awarding process.

Senator Hunter, ULM Online –

- Recruitment is ongoing.
- Tutoring is available.
- Numbers are increasing, and classes are filling up, which is good.

Senator Andrews, IT –

- Seven STAP proposals have been awarded.
- Upgrades are being made to 17 classrooms in an effort to get all the smart classrooms outfitted the same.
- The HUB equipment is on hand and ready to be installed.
- Athletics has improvements coming that will be announced in March.
- Adding more tech capabilities and more smart classrooms. It is a good idea to contact the Helpdesk with any problems in classrooms so they can be addressed.
- Live streaming will be added to Brown Theater and the Recital Hall in Biedenharn.
- Single sign-on is facing some obstacles with compatibility with the various applications involved. It is a priority and it is progressing.
- Library 2nd floor has new furniture, including group-study pods. They are piloting a program for 50” Surface tablets to be made available to students when they study in groups. There is a need since the study rooms are closed during the COVID Pandemic.

Reports of Committees

Communications – The effort to include credentials in the employee directory is ongoing. Social media posts are ongoing.

Handbook – No report

Constitution & Bylaws – No report

Elections – Shared a list of members showing their status in terms of elections – whether one needs to run again to remain on the Senate, or needs to sit out a year between terms. Nominations will open up after the March meeting.

Welfare – Will meet soon to discuss new initiatives.

Unfinished Business

Updates: Strategic Plan draft is due to be released prior to March 1st.

Feedback on Supplies – It came to the Senate’s attention that not all buildings are supplied with enough things like paper towels, restroom tissue, etc. President Rhodes plans to contact the Physical Plant to make sure supplies are distributed consistently, and is seeking input from Senators about their buildings.

New Business

Accessibility on campus –

- Senator Thompson pointed out the problem with students not knowing how to get temporary ID access to elevators. Also, she brought up the ongoing concern about handicap accessibility of Hannah Hall. The parking spaces on the front of the building, yet the ramps are on the back side of the building.
- Senator Filhiol brought up several instances to illustrate the overall difficulty of getting around campus for either temporarily or permanently impaired individuals and requested that the issue be something ULM will focus on more going forward. It is an inclusion issue that affects both recruitment and staff retention.
- A discussion ensued about making the information about elevator access for students more searchable and available on the ULM website.

Announcement –

- Women’s Symposium is on March 16th. Today is the last day to register with the ULM discount.
- CERT Training will be offered April 11-12. This session is for beginners. A follow-up session will be offered in the future.

Adjournment

There being no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Senator Andrews and seconded by Senator Olinger. The next meeting will be March 16, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Library Conference Room 622. Guests may attend via Zoom.