



STAFF SENATE MINUTES

September 21, 2022 10:00 am Terrace Library 7th Floor

Attendees	<p>Senators: Greg Andrews, Anzalone, Kristal, Chloe Beaver, James Beinkemper, Mallory Benedetto, Therese Filhiol, Cindy Foust, Andrew Hardee-President Elect, Joanna Hunter-Secretary, Dana Mejia, Meghan Olinger-President, Melissa Rhodes-Past President, Sarah Siereveld, Ahmaad Solmone, Jimmy Waller, Sara Webb, Chris Williams, Faith Wilson</p> <p>Visitors: Seth Hall, Allison Thompson, Sabrina McClain, Jyssa Hattaway, Harrison Gravelle, Julie Nguyen, Jennifer Huey, Jessica Slawson, Debbie Upshaw, Ayush Gupta, Jessica Griggs, Jamie Norris, Lauren Anderson, Marla Herrington</p>
Excused/Absent	Fernando Cordova, Nicole Walker
Call to Order	<p>September Staff Senate Meeting called to order by President Olinger Roll taken by Secretary Hunter Visitors welcomed by President Olinger</p>
Approval of Minutes	<p>Motion made by Senator Therese Filhiol to approve the Minutes of the August 2022 meeting. Seconded by Senator Chloe Beaver.</p>
Guest Speaker	<p>Seth Hall Interim Athletic Director – Seth spoke about the completion of the strategic plan for athletics mentioning two documents that emerged as a result of that plan. One document list goals and the other key fundraising efforts. Seth mentioned the next football game as well as women’s volleyball, soccer and cross-country events. Staff Senate members asked what were top priorities for athletics and what is the athletic director looking for from staff senate. Seth noted budget as a priority. ULM has the lowest budget in FBS football. The athletic department is working on several areas to address the budget issue. How to increase funds with a goal of raising 3 million dollars? How to become more efficient? Athletics is monitoring third party contracts to see if that is the option or if ULM should be handling things internally. Athletics is working to change poor spending habits. Athletics wants to encourage and build communication with departments across campus. The second priority mentioned was culture. Athletics wants to address issues with staff who do not want to be at ULM. How does athletics create an environment that encourages and supports staff to want to be at ULM? How can athletics and campus partner together? How to increase community engagement and involvement? How to create an environment where people want to be at ULM athletic events regardless of the score? Fundraising – Lehir Field \$600,000 a year; Athletic and ULM Foundations are based on private fundraising. There is more collaboration needed in regards to fundraising. There was also discussion of Capital outlay funds that currently include Sugar Hall</p>

renovation, Fant Ewing Coliseum which is number 10 on the UL System renovation list. It needs to be ADA compliance. The renovation and addition of building for health sciences is a 60-million-dollar project. ULM is also working with FEMA, Board of Regents and State Legislators on the project as it intended to be an emergency facility as well. Who is handling ULM strategic planning now that Seth is interim AD? Vice presidents and persons appointed by Dr. Berry. Student athletic fees were brought into question. Does the fee have to be voted on by the students? Yes it requires a vote. There is a need to build trust with CAB and SGA to show student athletes support ULM. There is a need to show how it will enhance student engagement. Transparency by athletics and staff is key when adding an additional fee. Can we fix the disgruntled culture of ULM staff? Suggestions included: developing and appreciation system across campus, more transparency about efficiency efforts, Dr. Berry speaking about faculty and staff wellness and revisiting the walking trail plan. How can athletics and staff senate support each other? Staff spotlights announced at athletic games. Seth asked if anyone had any thoughts or ideas to communicate with him.

Reports of Committees

Handbook – 21-22 handbook was approved
 Bi-laws – working on budget plan
 Elections- no report
 Staff welfare- windfall elimination protection, benefits fair October 11th , working with communication committee to promote events, SSA presentation on windfall elimination on HR website. Staff appreciation event during fall break is being planned as well the development of a book club.
 Communication- Teams groups, contact list, staff spotlights, senate spotlights, larger presence on Instagram.

Continuing Business

Communication Resolution – Megan will work with Chloe on writing the resolution
 Lunch meeting with Dr. Berry and the Senate, Faculty and SGA presidents has to be rescheduled.

New Business

Homecoming October 4 – 8 please participate in events.
 Volunteer opportunities for ULL and USM tailgates
 Browse on the Bayou 9/24

Open Discussion: Harrison Gravelle asked about staff parking around the HUB. ULM PD is working on expanding handicap parking in that area.

Adjournment

There being no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Senator Greg Andrews and seconded by Senator Kristal Anzalone. Meeting adjourned by President Olinger. The next Staff Senate meeting will be on October 19th at 10:00 am in the Library Conference Room 622.

