



# STAFF SENATE MINUTES

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

10:00AM

**UNIVERSITY LIBRARY,  
ROOM 622**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Kirby Campbell, Arely Castillo, Kristi Davis, Chance Eppinette, Amy Estes, Erica Hopko, Treina Landrum, Sabrina McClain, Cynthia Robertson, Michael Roboski, Deborah Beaver (visitor), Karen Higuera (Visitor)
<b>ABSENT (EXCUSED)</b>	Jarrod Breithaupt, Kelli Cole, Kristin Chandler, Katie Dawson, Morgan Patrick, Mary Schmeer

**Agenda topics**

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	A regular meeting of the Staff Senate was held on February 15, 2017 in University Library, Room 622, and called to order at 10:02 am by Kristi Davis, President. A quorum was present.
<b>MINUTES</b>	Minutes of the regular meeting on January 18, 2016 meeting were reviewed by the committee. Grammatical and wording changes were noted. Senator Roboski moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Senator Eppinette. Motion passed.

<b>DISCUSSIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Roll Call</b></li> <li>❖ <b>Guest Speaker: President Nick Bruno</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It has been a good year. Enrollment is up. They are still working with Dr. Richters on increasing enrollment. Seth Hall has left the university and Sami Owens will step into the vacant position. Retention is everyone's job.</li> <li>- The special session is currently in progress. Dr. Bruno has encouraged Ouachita Business Alliance to write a letter in support of higher education.</li> <li>- We had good fundraising efforts last year in some areas. We are currently trying to raise funds to redo the track. We are continually trying to upgrade the parking lots. The Facilities Department has acquired two new pieces of property. The construction of the new event center appears to be on track.</li> <li>- We are not expecting any capital outlay money this year. Sugar Hall and Caldwell Hall both need renovations in order to be brought up to code.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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**BUSINESS/  
OPEN FLOOR  
DISCUSSION**

- There are currently no hiring freezes as of yet. We have been able to fill vacant positions, but we are still under the state order regarding raises. There is an outside private group that would like to fund some salary adjustments, but the University has not committed to anything.
- Sandel Hall is up and running.
- Dr. Bruno is not yet sure what to expect for the new year regarding the budget.
- Dr. Bruno continues to advocate for higher education. Dr. Panic continues to evaluate faculty positions as related to credit hours. Some positions have been reassigned to other areas.
- Will Garrett be renovated or demolished? The decision should be made by the end of the fiscal year. A decision will also be made about what to do with Stubbs and Hanna Halls. The state has been looking at space utilization. ULM does not have good space utilization. We have to pay attention to this when scheduling classes - eULM, online classes, night classes, TR vs MWF classes, etc.
- What is going on with the website? We all need to help with the content. Problems should be sent to Lisa Miller and Julia Letlow. Representatives from the University met with the News-Star. Research shows that people are more concerned with personal stories. Interest is now judged by the number of social media hits that a story gets.
- Can you provide an update on the Chief Information Officer search? - We need to find the right person with the right vision. Dr. Bruno thinks that this person should be independent from the library.

❖ **Business/Open Floor Discussion**

- **Walker Hall** - Michael Davis is supposed to be following up on the need for additional security lighting.
- **Elections** - The Elections Committee will begin looking at seats that will become vacant.
- **Payroll Changes** - No final decisions have been made by the VPs and President regarding the changes. Kristi Davis and Melissa Ducote worked on a list of pros and cons of changes. Electronic time entry will be put into place first. An employee's annual pay will remain the same, however, on a bi-weekly cycle, your monthly pay may decrease. FLSA non-exempt new hires will be paid bi-weekly.
- **Ethics training** – The plan is for the ethics training to be completed during the 1st quarter of the year.

❖ The next Staff Senate meeting will be held **March 15, 2017** at 10:00 in Library 622.

**CONCLUSIONS**

There being no further business, Senator Robertson made a motion to adjourn; Senator Roboski seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.