



STAFF SENATE MINUTES

MINUTES

February 19, 2020 10:00 AM

ULIB 622

President	Deborah Beaver
ATTENDEES	<p>Senators: Colton Bernstein, Kristin Chandler, Fernando Cordova, Dan DeJarnette, Jason Dunavant, Leslie Exmeyer, Andrew Hardee, Christie Hemphill, Erica Hopko, Sabrina McClain, Meghan Olinger, Melissa Rhodes, Allison Thompson, Lamont Windom, and Hope Young.</p> <p>Visitors: Noelle Prestridge and Therese Filhiol</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Dr. Nick Bruno</p>
ABSENT	Tommie Nelson

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	Call to Order/Approval of Minutes
<p>The meeting was called to order by President Beaver. Motion to approve the January meeting minutes was made by Senator Jason Dunavant and seconded by Senator Lamont Windom.</p>	
DISCUSSION	Guest Speaker – Dr. Nick Bruno
<p>Dr. Nick Bruno briefly discussed his retirement plan which includes retirement in May (after commencement) or June (if the new president not yet seated). He and Mrs. Bruno will make their home in Amite.</p> <p>The presidential search committee will be meeting in the middle of March and interviewing candidates in the middle of April. This will be the 3rd president recruited (within the UL System) by Dr. Jim Henderson, UL System President. Challenges for the new president will include budgetary needs and enrollment (future issue for all institutions).</p> <p>The VCOM building will be open in April and by June or July there will be students.</p> <p>The System boards are looking at 5% pay raises for the new year. The need is understood but it couldn't be included in the Governor's budget.</p> <p>If mandated cost payments are approved at the system level, it still won't be significant money. Major repairs needed at ULM includes needs at Walker and some buildings need roof work. All of that would be on a separate budget.</p>	

DISCUSSION	Old Business
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Senator Allison Thompson, Chair of the Handbook Committee, stated the handbook has been revised to coincide as closely as possible with current, published policy. The draft is complete. It will be reviewed once more and sent to President Beaver to seek approval in the next 2 weeks by email and ratify at the next meeting.

President Beaver emailed the members a copy of the Recycling Initiative Resolution from Faculty Senate prior to the last meeting. Senator Thompson made a motion from the floor that Staff Senate would support the commendable efforts and resolution provided by Faculty Senate. Seconded by Senator Meghan Olinger. Motion passed.

DISCUSSION	New Business
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Senator Thompson, Chair of the Elections Committee, reported that the Elections Committee met and developed a timeline for Staff Senate elections. She provided a handout with the timeline including nominations open March 30 – April 9 and the election to be held on April 27-28. There are 8 senators with terms expiring this year and 7 of those seats will be available for the new year. A chart was provided to the members showing the seat apportionment by organizational unit.

President Beaver stated that the elected officers of the Staff Senate met, along with President Henderson and other members of the Presidential Search team from the UL System. The Senate officers were updated on the timeline and search process and were given the opportunity to provide feedback.

There will be a rigorous timeline and they expect to have someone in place by June. The Search Committee will meet March 11 at ULM and Senate will be given the opportunity to provide feedback. Janelle McDaniel from Faculty Senate will be a voting member of the Search Committee and will meet with us if we have any questions or concerns for any of the candidates or the process.

In other new business discussion:

Food Pantry on campus is now open at the Activity Center. It will be stocked by the Food Bank. Students taking at least one hour are eligible to access the Food Pantry.

CERT meeting was held on campus on February 18. The training to be held at ULM on April 16 and 17, will be the first University in the state to go through with an official team.

HR plans to have the Supervisor toolkit ready to initiate this summer. All employee checkout processes will be online by the summer. Phase I employee evaluations will be coming in April.

There have been some talks about the future use of the green space area near Sandel becoming a HUB that will include dining places to be determined later. Ideas and proposals for the future use of the SUB 1st floor will be ongoing.

DISCUSSION	Closing
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There being no other business, a motion was made by Senator Christie Hemphill to adjourn, seconded by Senator Andrew Hardee. Motion passed.

The next meeting will be on March 18, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at ULIB 622.