



Staff Senate Minutes

September 9, 2020

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Senators Present: Peggy Brown, Suzann Bennett, Angie Campbell, Jody Stone, Kim Turner, Tony Craven, , Emily Tooy, Maggie Burkhead, Rick Wyninger, Carrie Gossett, and Amber May

Guests: Paul McCann, Director of Budgeting and Sean Reeder, VPBA

Senators Absent: Chris Childress, Melissa Coleman, Leslie Ashley-McLean, Andrea Beals, Tina Jenkins and Renee Kerz.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Peggy Brown at 1:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: August minutes approved. Motion made by Angie Campbell, and second by Suzann Bennett. Approved unanimously.

Executive Officer Reports:

- A. **Treasurer Report-** Appropriated budget account is \$240 which is \$300 less 20% holdback for now. Gift account budget has \$419.05-ledger 5 budget is not posted yet.
- B. **Secretary Report** – Jody Stone- No Report
- C. **Vice President Report** – Tony Craven- No Report
- D. **President Report-** Met with President Glassman this past Monday regarding Staff Senate questions as follows:

Is it true that if students go to health services to be tested for COVID, they are charged \$40?

The short answer is yes. Everyone is charged \$40. It can be charged to their student account. It cost \$35 to have the sample tested plus we added \$5.00 to cover costs. Only symptomatic students are being tested. Carle was doing our testing but they are now backlogged and are only taking tests from symptomatic and those scheduled for surgery. There is CARES funding available for students who cannot afford the \$40 fee. Athletes were being tested once a week but this has been suspended since the seasons have been delayed.

Does EIU plan on implementing a “free” testing for students, staff, and faculty? U of I is mandatory testing twice a week. Are we going to do anything like this?

We do not at this time. Carle has a backlog and cannot support open testing. As soon as the U of I has the capability of expanding their saliva test, we will start offering it. We are on the priority list for when the U of I testing is ready for outside public universities. We are one of the first that should receive this testing capability. It is possible in another 3 or so weeks.

Rumor has it that we are not testing anymore until after 10th day to ensure our enrollment numbers stay up for financial reasons (housing and faculty CUs)? I have heard that faculty are actually telling their students this.

Absolutely not true. 10th day is more of an accounting deadline. Even if we had to send students home, we would refund housing just like we did last year. The housing cancellation was extended to allow students that would feel more comfortable living elsewhere to cancel their contracts. We also had a few last minute changes moving into the residence halls. Freshmen were also allowed to live off campus if they felt safer.

If students go through the SBLCH COVID testing line at the hospital, do they show in the numbers on the dashboard? Yes, but only if positive.

Any idea how many faculty moved their courses to online? How many courses are still face to face?

Overall: 27% are F2F; 27% are hybrid; 46% are online

1000-2000 level: 35% are F2F; 35% are hybrid; 30 % are online. 30% of our incoming freshmen are minority, first generation, or low income. EIU feels that it is important they receive a face to face experience to help them succeed.

Any idea on whether non-negotiated will receive raises this year?

Still don't know. Will be retro to July 1st, if given one.

This year has been different. Still possible we might have a recession even though there is no indication at this time. Waiting to see if there is a new federal stimulus package that will help cover covid expenses.

The dashboard is on the EIU website. It is updated every Tuesday. Recommend checking the FAQ area of the Covid site for updated information.

Committee Reports:

A. Personnel Policies, Benefits, and Welfare Committee

- a. Parking Appeals Subcommittee – No report
- b. Parking Advisory Subcommittee – No Report
- c. Environmental Health Safety Subcommittee- No report
- d. Sick Leave Bank Subcommittee – Suzann Bennett shared they have not met yet.

B. Budget and Planning Committee

- a. CUPB – Met last Friday, Sept. 4. Peggy Brown was elected chair again and the executive committee was elected.
- b. University Naming Subcommittee - Angie Campbell shared last meeting was cancelled.

C. Liaison Committee – No reports

- a. University Union Advisory Subcommittee- No report but Amber May volunteered to serve.
- b. Staff /Faculty Senate Relations Subcommittee- No report but Emily Tooy volunteered to serve.

D. Election Committee- No report

E. Ad Hoc Committees

- A. **Staff Recognition/Development Committee** – Angie Campbell reported Shout Outs have started and gift card distribution has started.
- B. **Campus Master Plan Committee** – No report but Tony Cravens will replace Shawn Peoples on this committee.
- C. **Campus Recreation Board Committee** – No report
- D. **Information Technology Advisory Committee ITAC**- No report
- E. **VPAA Scholarship Review Committee** - No report
- F. **125th Anniversary Committee** -No report
- G. **Booth Library Advisory Board** –No report

Constituent Reports:

- A. **Administrative and Professional** – No report
- B. **Non-negotiated Civil Service** – No report
- C. **Non-negotiated Trades**– No report
- D. **Negotiated Trades**– No report
- E. **AFSCME 981**– No report
- F. **UPD** – No report
- G. **Contract Appointment or Grant Funded** – No report
- H. **Minority Staff Report** – Emily Tooy reported a lot is happening on campus. The next RISE Conference is Fri. Oct 16th. It will be a virtual conference format.

Liaison Reports:

- A. **Student Senate** – No representative attended
- B. **Faculty Senate** – No representative attended but will find out who the faculty rep is.
- C. **VPBA Report** – VPBA Sean Reeder and Director of Business Services Paul McCann:

Working on finalizing the budget that was given to the BOT in June. We still have a 5% potential holdback from the state that we are watching and holding on to.

New Science Building update- 10% of the cost has been issued to find architectural and design team. We are still finalizing working on the terms with the top architectural and design team.

Life Science Building- bid came in considerably higher than budget allowed. There was some duplication of work in the bid and there is a tightening of construction materials and supplies in the Illinois region thus material prices are higher. Capital Development Board is looking into this and has asked about the potential for more funds.

Booth Library water infiltration issue- we are in a holding pattern for now with plans to work on next summer.

MacAfee tuck pointing and clock tower repairs have been bid but the cost of the bid was higher than estimates. We have secured the original funding but this has not moved forward.

Brief discussion about whether there was an IGP regarding academic spaces moving from one building to another. School of Extended Learning is moving from Blair Hall to Buzzard Hall.

Suzann Bennett brought up the Remote Work Policy. VPBA Reeder shared it is a temporary remote work policy to assist employees with children at home (for example) and to work with the supervisor on how to complete their duties while working remotely. Some positions are challenging or impossible to work remotely. Senator Burkhead asked about remote work policy and how it relates to flu when the upcoming flu season hits. VPBA Reeder said that the Remote Work Policy is discussed weekly at President's Council. PC also looks for guidance from the State of Illinois on these matters and we are continuing to monitor this policy.

Unfinished Business:

Review of Constitution Senator Bennett reported that herself, Angie Campbell, and Chris Childress are looking at different areas. Size of Staff Senate and the representation for each constituency group is one area under consideration. We would have to discuss this with President Glassman since President Jorns developed the composition of the current Staff Senate. Duties of the officers is another area being looked at along with how to fill a vacant seat.

New Business:

Title IX Panel Member- President Glassman has asked us to appoint someone. Emily Tooy and Maggie Burkhead indicated they were interested. President Glassman will select.

Everyone is asked to participate in Eastern Reads.

Questions for President Glassman:

Please email to President Brown before the 10/02/2020 Executive board meeting

Next Meeting:

Stay with Teams meeting format; Wed. Oct. 14, 2020 at 1:15pm

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned @ 1:51

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Stone
Staff Senate Secretary