

Unclassified Professional Staff Senate Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2024

Call to Order and Welcome:

President Greg Belcher called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Reading of the February 7, 2024 minutes. Motion to approve by Michael Woodrum, seconded by Josh Letner. All in favor.

Treasurers Report – funds are depleted for the calendar year.

Ex-Officio Reports:

Student Government report: No report.

Faculty Senate President report (Rebeca Book):

1. last guest speaker - IRB
2. March focus –
 - a. general education
 - b. KBOR faculty awards
 - c. Elections for at-large senators
3. Ongoing work –
 - a. Provost search
 - b. tuition committee
 - c. Apple Day

Unclassified Support Staff report: No Report

University Leadership Team Liaison report (Abby Fern):

1. Great Gorilla Scholarship – creating FAQ
 - a. Tuition dependent waiver – those students will receive the amount of their fees or the amount of the scholarship – whichever is lower.

Old Business: None

Committee Reports:

1. Executive Committee
 - a. Met with Dr. Shipp, discussed PD challenges.
2. Parking Committee – No report.
3. Sustainability Committee – No report.
4. Employee Initiatives –
 - a. Professional Development – No report.
 - b. Kudos and Recognition
 - i. Service awards successful
 - ii. Appreciation event during GoPitt!Fest – April 3 2:00 – 3:30
 - iii. Will host food truck event on May 1st
 - iv. Gorilla High Five still in progress
 - v. Summer event also in the works

- c. Onboarding/Offboarding
 - i. Checklist complete and available on the HR website
 - ii. Feedback for checklist has been positive thus far
- d. Performance – No report.
- e. Well Being –
 - i. Planning activities
 - ii. Creating comprehensive resource for well being opportunities
 - iii. Employee Wellness Fair – September 30th
 - 1. Will participate in this event.
- 5. Satisfaction Survey – No report.
- 6. Elections –
 - a. President Elect 2024-2025 – Eva Sager
 - b. Cohorts are being evaluated
 - c. Senator representation will be determined next week.
 - d. Elections for 2024-2025 will occur in April.
- 7. Bylaws – No report.
- 8. Professional Development – No report.

New Business:

- 1. USS/UPS merger
 - a. Concerns –
 - i. Will anyone lose a voice?
 - ii. Are there concerns similar enough?
 - iii. Does a conflict arise if a supervisor and employee are both on Senate?
 - b. USS is depleting as new hires are being hired as UPS
 - i. Exception is University Police and trades
 - c. Proposed bylaws would have leadership from both UPS and USS
 - i. All senators would be at-large, cohorts would be eliminated.
 - d. Motion to move forward with merger by Michael Woodrum, second by Luecrita Haraughty.
 - i. Discussion –
 - 1. Still need consensus from USS.
 - 2. Student employees not represented, should they be considered?
 - ii. Motion vote – all in favor; motion passes.

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Dan Shipp, University President

- College of Technology – interim dean role has provided insight
- Regional request (FHSU, ESU, PSU) for state funding – request has moved forward through House and now onto to Senate
 - \$3 million/year for the next two years
 - Had bipartisan support
 - Seeking one-time funds for Reading Center
- Associate’s Degree – legislators were complimentary of this move
- Gorilla Rising is on schedule

- Working to secure support for KBI
 - forensic science lab
 - would be located in Tyler Research Center
- Working to put together soccer pitch for September games
 - approximately 38 committed; about 10 already here this spring
- Professional Development challenges
 - LinkedIn platform – is now being finalized
 - online courses and modules will be available to all
 - Looking at in-person learning opportunities for connecting with others