

Pittsburg State University Support Staff Senate Minutes for January 8th, 2020

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 12th, 2020 at 1:30pm

The University Support Staff Senate welcomes all university support staff, as you do not have to be a Senator to attend.

Senators Present: Barb Barto, Carrol Bell, Kathy Benard, Terri Blessent, Brandi Boswell, Rick Clutter, Kevin Elrod, Betty Geier, Michelle Hensley, Tim James, Jerrica Lair, Diane Letner, Woody Lopez, Jeannice Parker, Terry Pierce, Tish Potter, Stephanie Willis, and Mary Wolfe.

Senators Absent: Tina Gregory & Dan Workman – Excused.

Guests: Dr. Steve Erwin, VP Student Life. Dr. Kevin Bracker, Faculty Senate President. Jordan Harding & Heather Winzer.

Opening of Meeting

Meeting called to order by Senate President Terry Pierce at 1:31 PM

Guest Speakers: No guest speakers.

Review of Meeting Minutes

December minutes were not prepared, to be shared and reviewed. Will have them for the February meeting.

1. Treasurer's Report – Mary Wolfe

Budget Account: December Balance - \$2232.60. No Expenditures. January Balance - \$2232.60

Foundation Account: No Expenditures. January Balance - \$57.04

Reviewed and approved.

2. University Professional Staff Senate Report

Brad Stefanoni, UPSS President: Not in attendance

3. Faculty Staff Senate Report

Dr. Kevin Bracker, Faculty Staff Senate President: Met with the Board of Regents over break. Had 1 hour, got through 1 question.

4. Senate President's Report with University President

Terry met with Dr. Scott on 1/7/2020, for about 30 minutes. We talked about the upcoming legislative session starting in January. Dr Scott visited with the Governor and told her about our survey, a copy of the survey was left with her Chief of Staff. Dr. Scott advocating for us. I asked Dr. Scott about how to send our message to legislators at the Legislative Sendoff Luncheon this Friday at the Alumni Center. Dr Scott suggested that we try to get a table with one of the legislators, if possible. He also suggested that we ask our question openly when the opportunity for questions is provided. I will be working on the question that I plan to ask with Dr. Scott or Jaime. I intend to use the fact that 36% of employees have a second job to open the question. I will also be providing the legislators with a copy of the executive summary of the survey. Other topics included Spring Convocation and the Legislative Town Halls.

USSS Council Conference Call – 1/7/2020

Terry Pierce and Terri Blessent both were in attendance. Topics included: lots of communication from ESU, as they are the Council Host this year. FHSU is having a forum in April, with State Legislators. They suggested that all schools attempt to do the same. Statewide, USS is 8000 voters strong, and we need to “use our weight” to get our voices heard. Doug Cushenbery and Joel Ewy are working on crafting a system-wide email, to inform everyone about the survey results, and how we are following up with KBOR and legislature.

5. Committee Reports

- A. Elections: Rick Clutter – No Report
- B. Student Health Fees Council: Carrol Bell – No Report
- C. Welcoming Committee: Diane Letner - No Report
- D. Public Relations: Rick Clutter – No Report
- E. Parking Committee: Tish Potter – No Report. Dr. Erwin suggested that anyone looking for service or leadership opportunities, to serve on this committee and/or be willing to be the chair.
- F. Board of Governance Committee: Rick Clutter – No Report, next meeting 1/7/2020.
- G. Strategic Planning Committee: Terri Blessent – Small working groups, reviewing unit plans.
- H. Information Technology Council: Diane Letner – No Report, next meeting in April.
- I. Campus Safety and Security Task Force: Betty Geier – No Report.
- J. University Legislative Coordinating Council: Terry Pierce – No Report
- K. University Revenue Planning Committee: Terry Pierce – No Report. Not meeting until Spring 2020

6. Old Business:

Wednesday, December 18, four members of the USS Senate took a trip to Topeka for the KBOR meeting. We were present for the SCOPS meeting, the COPS meeting, and the KBOR meeting. We left with the suggestion that we present our cause to the legislators, so we are on January 10th at the Legislative Sendoff Lunch at the PSU Alumni Center. Terri Blessent provided information regarding the Sendoff luncheon.

7. New Business:

Woody wanted to know why we’re paying a company to kill weeds in the winter, and why we’re using dangerous chemicals. Some discussion followed, regarding opinions on this practice.

8. Good of the Order: January legislative update sessions will be held on campus. Dr. Scott said all employees are encouraged to attend, if you can’t go with your usual workgroup, please attend any of the sessions. Also, the Spring Convocation is set for January 30th, all employees are encouraged to attend.

Dr. Erwin Addressed Senate. He spoke about potential changes to the way that Leadership communicates with staff...i.e. Townhalls, Divisional meetings. Enrollment is not great, and funding not as good as hoped.

Tina Gregory brought up the library elevator being down. She expressed concern about difficulties for those with mobility challenges.

Adjournment: 2:31 pm