

## **Pittsburg State University Support Staff Senate Minutes for March 11, 2020**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.**

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, Terri Blessent, Brandi Boswell, Kevin Elrod, Betty Geier, Tina Gregory, Michelle Hensley, Jerrica Lair, Diane Letner, Woody Lopez, Terry Pierce, Tish Potter, Stephanie Willis, Mary Wolfe.

**Senators absent:** Carroll Bell – EXCUSED, Kathy Benard, Tim James, Jeannice Parker, Debbie Barone, Dan Workman.

**Guests:** Dr. Steve Erwin, Dr. Kevin Bracker, Jeff Burns, Luecrita Haraughty, Heather Eckstein, Melinda Roelfs.

**Opening of Meeting:** Meeting called to order by Senate President, Terry Pierce at 1:30 p.m.

**Guest Speakers:** Jeff Burns, with ITS, along with Luecrita Haraughty, Heather Eckstein & Melinda Roelfs (from the committee) came to present the new Pitt State Pathway system and answer any questions anyone may have. Very interesting!

**Review of Meeting Minutes:** February meeting minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** No expenditures in either account so balance for February is below

**Budget account:** \$2,103.21      **Foundation account:** \$57.04

**University Professional Staff Senate Report:** no report as Brad Stefanoni was not in attendance

**Faculty Staff Senate Report:** Coronavirus is main topic in their latest meeting, and what that may mean for them in the future. Grant Moss and Kevin Bracker will visit with Dr. Howard Smith about what all this means. Apple Day was a success! They are currently working on their elections.

**Senate President's Report w/University President:** Terry met with Dr. Scott on 3/4/2020 for a short meeting. Dr. Scott stated he testified in front of two Legislative committees after the last KBOR meeting, said he got some nice compliments from the chair of the house appropriations committee about campus leadership. Dr. Scott also mentioned that both committees want to talk at the Omnibus Budget meeting about adding \$11 million dollars for employee raises (so it is still a possibility for raises). Dr. Scott said that he plans to continue advocating for maintaining the flow of dollars to refurbish and renovate buildings on campus, but one Legislator wants that money to be under the State's control, not locally at each University. Lastly, Dr. Scott stated that State Revenues continue to come in ahead of projections and that they are up \$67 million.

**USS Council Conference Call:** February 25, 2020: Need head count for the April 28<sup>th</sup> year end meeting at Emporia State. We also need to work with UPS about riding together, no need to take several vehicles. Their biggest concern is that they are being told by their Government Liason that when visiting with local Legislators, not to tell them they work for a Regent University because they cannot represent the whole University. I spoke with Dr. Scott later in the day, he stated that is NOT true and that we should be telling them that we work for Regent Universities and tell them our concerns. Dr. Scott did mention that we should not do this during working hours and not to use our university electronic devices to conduct this business.

They also noted that they get the sense that Higher Education and Legislators don't have a good working relationship and that KBOR and the Governor don't either. I mentioned that we needed to have good working relationship with our Government Liason and our University President, which not all Universities do.

**Committee reports:**

- A. Elections: Elected Jerrica Lair as Secretary (so this falls into her new role)
- B. Public Relations: Jerrica Lair – nothing to report
- C. Welcoming Committee: Diane Letner, we have 4 new employees:  
Dionne Carpino – Parking & Police; Valerio Bevilaqua – Parking & Police; Ann Courtney – Teaching & Leadership; George Ottendorf – Custodian (Overman Student Center)
- D. Parking Committee: Tish Potter New Chair – Tish Potter met 2/17/2020 Reviewed a few appeals and discussed and approved fees by \$2 for next semester.
- E. Board of Governor's Committee: Michelle Hensley was appointed – nothing to report
- F. Strategic Planning Committee: Terri Blessent – Meeting next week was canceled
- G. Information Technology Council: Diane Letner – Met last week, talked about Pathways; still offering training on Office 365; Admission transitioning from Hobson to Unified; working on an online COE – Master's program; GUS portal has a new look; GUS HR transitioning to a new look...will work through it all
- H. Campus Safety and Security Task Force: Betty Geier – Met 1/31/2020 which may be the last meeting for a while as they completed the report for Dr. Scott. Possibly making this a permanent committee.
- I. University Legislative Coordinating Council: meeting was canceled, rescheduled for Thursday of this week.
- J. University Revenue Planning Committee: - nothing to report
- K. Outstanding Senior: Tish Potter – had approximately 90 nominations, biggest issue is more females than males are nominated so took gender out, narrowed down to 15 and only get 1 vote instead of 2.

**Good of the Order:** Please let Terry or Terri know if you would like to attend the end of year meeting, which will be held at Emporia State University, no later than April 6<sup>th</sup>. Would like to see USS and UPS ride together in one vehicle as there will be restricted parking at ESU and to save money.

Dr. Erwin gave an up-to-date review of the COVID-19 issues, you can find all that information on the website: [pittstate.edu/coronavirus](http://pittstate.edu/coronavirus)

Meeting adjourned: 2:28p.m.