

University Support Staff Senate

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Minutes

PSU's University Support Staff Senate welcomes all, you do not have to be a Senator to attend.

Guests: Debbie Amershek, Eva Sager

Senators Present: Wylie DeGruson, Tracey Eagon, Sean Hall, Michelle Hensley, Keith Shively, Sara Sullivan, Cindy VanBecelaere, Stephanie Willis, Heather Winzer, Carol Young

Senators Absent: Jake Keltner, Tonya Pentola, Joe Sheehy, Ed Vanderbeck

President Sean Hall called the regular USS Senate meeting to order at 1:35 pm May 14, 2025, in the Meadowlark room of Pittsburg State University's Overman Student Center.

April's meeting minutes were presented for review. Michelle Hensley, moved to approve as submitted, Tracey Eagon seconded no discussion, motion carries. Minutes are available on the USS Senate website (<https://www.pittstate.edu/faculty-staff/university-support-staff-senate/index.html>)

Treasurer Tracey Eagon shared her report: Beginning Balance \$1030.00 Voya Plaque -\$74.10, President Plaque -\$67.83 Balance as of 5/14/25=\$888.07 It was discussed that Eva and Michelle plan to submit a joint recommended budget request for University Staff Senate going forward, and Gorilla Graphics or other entities on campus might be able to assist with zippered pad-folios, etc. If interested in knowing more, please attend a meeting and become a part of the conversation.

Guest Speaker Shawn Naccarato was unable to attend due to Kansas Board of Regents gathering in Topeka.

Other University Reports

Faculty Senate President Remarks: Norm Philipp absent also attending Topeka meeting— no report.

Unclassified Professional Senate (President-Elect) Remarks: Eva Sager – celebratory meal occurred at Brick and Mortar last week during their May meeting, Farwell to 'University Professional Staff Senate' and Transition time forthcoming.

Student Government Association President Remarks: Hanna Eckstein absent presenting on Student Fee increases to KBOR in Topeka. – (Eva shared) Cory Humble and Darrel McLeod are transitioning leadership they voted for a constitutional change keeping in compliance with campus and state requirements. (see Dan and Susan's May 14th e-mail message). As with all areas wrapping up end of the year transitions.

Human Resource Representatives: Debbie Amershek reported that Tuesday May 27th and Wednesday May 28th HR staff are moving desks and furniture. If you have in person HR business to attend to please try to do so prior to the Memorial Day Holiday, and please don't forget time entry deadlines (ease each other's workload). She also announced her own retirement set to begin in July 2025. Juneteenth is a Holiday (all accounted there's 3 this 'summer' 5/26, 6/19 & 7/4) and summer campus hours begin Sunday May 18th.

Sean had a bittersweet last conversation with Dan downtown Michelle was unable to attend, no report.

Emporia State University will 'host' the next Kansas Board of Regents USS-UPS Council Joint Meeting later this year. The Agenda from yesterday's May 13th morning shared staff council meeting via zoom is attached. Eva reported that it has been a common conversation among this group that Leadership Teams receive stipends, PSU's perspective is if every other regent school is paying than we too may

need to begin the work of figuring that out. Debbie recommended that Lori Scott Dreiling and Rachel Johnson included in those conversations.

Committee Reports:

- a. Satisfaction Survey: Heather Winzer reported from the joint council meeting agenda that PSU again had the most cooperation rate among all 6 institutions polled – Good Job Everyone. Yet, we too were down from 2022's numbers. Detailed results are forthcoming, likely much later this year.
- b. Parking Committee: Stephanie Willis reported the committee met again this last month to review 3 appeals all of which were approved. Carol shared briefly that University Police did have a student with a substantial amount of fines (~\$300) take care of it recently; which led to conversations among the different areas (housing, registrar, library, etc.) regarding consequences for actions and KBORs perspective on *not* holding transcripts, allowing students to transfer around the state with a clean slate.
- c. Overman Student Center Board of Governors: Carol Young indicated this group's last meeting was in April therefore nothing to report at this time.
- d. Employee Initiatives Teams (EIT):
 - a. Kudos/Recognition: Carol Young – Food Trucks were in the Cleveland Plaza today from 11-1, she reported the turn out seemed good noting it helps folks get out and connect with others.
 - b. Professional Development: Sean Hall – no meeting.
 - c. Onboarding/Offboarding: Michelle Hensley – nothing to report.
 - d. Employee Wellness + Wellbeing: Tracey Eagon and Carol Young – meeting scheduled for Thursday 5/15/25, Day at the Rec is coming up Wednesday June 25th 2-4pm.
 - e. Performance Management: Sean Hall – no known meeting nothing to share at this time.

Old Business:

1. End of the year banquet – Luncheon is schedule for Wednesday June 11th from 11:30 -1 at the Pitt downtown (516 N Broadway) – remember there's street parking as well as a lot in the back. Our budget should allow for senators and supervisor guests to order off the menu. One more time CHEERS to the final year of the PSU University Support Staff Senate established 2015, a continuation of the PSU Classified Staff Senate which traces its beginning campus roots back to 1983.

New Business:

Sean Hall announced he has a new position as the Facility Coordinator for Block 22, meaning he is now a part of University Professional Staff, as this was our 'last' meeting and the joint Staff Senate is established beginning Fiscal Year 26, we thank him for this leadership and sharing USS's voice this past year. Wylie DeGruson also shared as of this week he has a new supervisorial position also transitioning to UPS. Congratulations Wylie, enjoy the adjustments ahead. Cindy VanBecelaere asked about the Governor's proposed 2.5% raise discussed during our April meeting. To the best of our knowledge this is still under consideration, outcomes to be determined, CFO Doug Ball is asking for more specifics.

Good of the Order:

Next meeting: Please come to our celebratory luncheon 11:30 am Wednesday, June 11th at the Pitt.

Michelle Hensley motioned to adjourn, Stephanie Willis seconded, at 2:10 Sean Hall concluded our final meeting of the USS Senate. All Senators present gathered for a commemorative image taken by campus photographer, Sam Clausen. Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary Heather Winzer.

University Support Staff Senate
Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review March minutes
- III. Treasurer Report: Tracey
- IV. Guest Speaker: No Speaker
- V. Other University Reports
 - a. Faculty Senate President Remarks – Dr. Norman Philipp
 - b. Unclassified Professional Senate Remarks – Eva Sagar
 - c. SGA President Remarks – Hanna Eckstein
 - d. HR Reps
- VI. Senate President's Report with the University President – no meeting
- VII. KBOR USS-UPS Council Joint Meeting: attached
- VIII. Committee Reports:
 - a. Satisfaction Survey: Heather
 - b.** Parking Committee: Stephanie
 - c. Board of Governors: Carol
 - d. Employee Initiatives Teams (EIT)
 - i. Kudos/Recognition; Carol
 - ii. Professional Dev: Sean
 - iii. Onboarding/Offboarding: Michelle
 - iv. Employee Wellness: Tracey and Carol
 - v. Performance Management: Sean
- IX. Old Business:
 - a. End of Year Luncheon – June 11th at The Pitt, 11:30 - 1
- X. New Business:
- XI. Good of the Order:
 - a. Next meeting: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 1:30 pm in OSC Meadowlark Room
- XII. Adjournment.

Regents USS/UPS Shared Council
Meeting
9:30-10:30 a.m., April 8, 2025
Pitt State hosting via Zoom

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to order
 - A. Welcome & Housekeeping
- II. Reports
 - A. KBOR meeting update
 - i. Any updates – met a PSU in April
 - B. COPS report
 - i. Docking Institute – satisfaction survey updates
 - a. The overall cooperation rate for the 2025 study is 36.4%. This is higher than our 2019 study but lower than our 2022 study.

	2025	2022	2019
ESU	46%	57%	42%
FHSU	46%	52%	53%
KSU	34%	32%	28%
KU	39%	54%	
PSU	53%	63%	60%
WSU	26%	37%	44%
OVERALL	36.4%	44.1%	35.4%

- C. General updates from each school (major initiatives, events, news).
- D. Next year's lead – Emporia State University – Cassie Dieker

Emporia State University

- 1. Hired new Deans
- 2. Events – coffee truck on campus through the shared governances; celebrated Cinco de Mayo
- 3. Adding stipends to President, Pres-Elect, and Secretary positions (senate)
 - a. Stipends will come from the staff budget > added into their request

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Fort Hays State University

1. Senate election held- still have 3 open spots out of 15
2. Officer Election on May 6th
3. Attended KBOR- PSU was a great host! Attended Faculty Senate President's Meeting as well as the larger general meeting- Let's get back to representation at COPS or to KBOR...
4. Will attend next KBOR if approved for funding (even though it's the week of graduation???).
5. Summer Hours:
 - a. Beginning each **Memorial Day and continuing through the first week in August**, our summer hours will be **Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

Kansas State University

1. Professional staff will work on a proposal to change the name of the Faculty Senate to better reflect its representation in the upcoming AY.
2. Kimm has submitted updates to our Human Resources for the USS Handbook.
3. How often does each regent look at their handbooks?

Pittsburg State University

1. KBOR visit was held on campus April 16-17
 - a. Asked for a time for Staff Senate to begin having a presence again
2. No announcements yet for our new President
3. We have requested a stipend for Senate President next year – have not received a response.
 - a. has Emporia had any movement on this?

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University of Kansas

1. New senators and officers took their seats in April
2. Provost has approved Staff Senate budget for FY26 (exact amount TBD)
3. KU Staff Senate annual retreat to be held in June
 - a. Provost providing \$5,200 to fund the retreat including breakfast, lunch, space, and some branded merch
4. KU staff had a 38% response rate to Docking survey (down from 2022)
5. Governance office is reviewing a request to make meeting recordings public or require an open records request
 - a. General Counsel will likely agree that the recordings should not be made public and that meeting minutes are the best way to share information with campus and the public, which can be requested through an open records request
6. Staff Senate D&I Committee to be renamed and adjust its standing charges to adhere to new regulations

Wichita State University