



Staff Senate Minutes

January 7, 2014, 3pm North Santiam Room, WUC

- The meeting was called to order at 3:11pm
 - Attendees: Dona Vasas, Sue DeNoyer, Nan Lehto, Elayne Kuletz, Crystal Ross, Megan Habermann, Brandon Neish (Vice President), Heather Mercer (President), Sharon Price
- After reviewing the agenda, Nan moved to approve it. Crystal seconded the motion which passed by a vote of 7 yay, 0 nay, and 0 abstentions with no discussion.
- The senators reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Elayne moved to approve the minutes which was seconded by Crystal. The motion passed by a vote of 7 yay, 0 nay, and 0 abstentions with no discussion.
- Staff Senate Updates
 - Messages from the President
 - There were no messages from the President.
 - Faculty Senate update
 - For the update regarding Faculty Senate, Elayne informed the senate that Faculty Senate had not yet met for the term and that their first meeting of the term was set for the following week.
 - Administrative Support Council update
 - The ASC has not met for the term yet. Brandon asked who was now leading the ASC while sitting President Dave Sundby was out. Megan believed that although Dave was gone temporarily, he was still performing his duties as ASC President.
 - Student Senate update
 - The Student Senate had not yet met as of this first meeting for the term. Their meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays at 4:30pm during the Winter Term.

- Old Business

There was no old business for this meeting.

- New Business

- Letter in support of governance
 - Heather spoke in regards to the letter drafted by herself in support of a University governance plan at WOU from the WOU Staff. The letter was reviewed by the senators who wished to have more time to review and make changes. Additionally, some senators expressed their desires to make the letter more bold and direct. The group asked that the letter be uploaded to a Google Doc and shared so that it could be revised.

Also, Heather informed the committee that WOU President Mark Weiss was set to present Western's ten year financial plan to the State Board of Higher Education. Although it was determined that providing this letter of support of a governance option before this presentation was not feasible, the senate still wanted to ensure that the letter was written and presented to Mark. This would also then be available for viewing if requested.

- The Staff Senate at their last business meeting in December had opted to make some changes to the bylaws that governs them. Brandon presented the changes that Senate President Heather Mercer had put together including changes to the support constituency groups, changes to the language regarding the posting of meeting minutes and agendas, and other updates to reflect current times within the Staff at WOU. The committee discussed the revisions made in regards to the posting of meeting minutes then voted to ratify the new document. The motion passed with a vote of 9 yay, 0 nay, and 0 abstentions (2 people arrived late to the meeting resulting in the increased vote count).
- Announcements
 - The Senate took this time to discuss the upcoming New Staff Welcome. The New Staff Welcome is scheduled for February 11th beginning at 11am. The group divided up responsibilities and agreed to return with a progress report at the next business meeting on the 4th of February.
 - The senators discussed the meeting scheduled for the 21st of January. The group decided to alternate between business meetings and a training/update session. These trainings/updates will be from organizations around campus that information can they be relayed to each of the constituency groups. For the 21st of January, the committee decided to try and ask the WOU Diversity Committee to come update the senate on happenings around campus and what the group is working on. Brandon will attempt to schedule this session for the 21st.
- Adjourn – next meeting February 4th, 2014