

Staff Senate Meeting Minutes -- April 19, 2018

In Attendance: Dona Vasas, Rip Horsey, Weiwei Zhang, Kristen Larson, Louann Casares, Andrew Holbert, Kara Westervelt Parker, Kathryn Plummer, JD Welch (proxy for Kyler Dreyer), Jesse Poole

Not in Attendance: Susan Hays, Kimber Townsend

Call to order at 2:09pm

Approval of the Minutes:

- Changes: under “Business”, 4th bullet point, edit to add “Edits to bylaws”
- Louann moves to approve the amended minutes; Rip seconded; motion approved 9-0-1

Approval of Agenda:

- Kathryn moves to approve agenda; Louann seconds; motion approved 10-0-0

Reports:

- **Shared Communications:**
 - Student body elections this month and into next month; 10% of student body must vote for it to be a valid election
 - Diversity Week starts week of May 13th (ASWOU-sponsored)
 - Food Pantry moving from APSC to OMA (no timeframe established at this moment), it will be in the SE wing area of the building), they are talking about holding cooking workshops for students in the kitchen area;
 - ASWOU talking about offering free menstruation products around campus rather than coin-op machines, counseling center is interested in helping distribute them, they are hoping to find a sponsor to supply the products
- **President’s Report/Board of Trustees report:**
 - Board approved tuition for next year
 - Voted to put Western Promise Tuition structure on hold beginning 2019 academic year, the Promise creates two groups on campus--students who care about tuition and those who don’t, the Promise was the default in the past, but for this coming year it’ll be basic tuition that is the default
 - “Texas WUE”--Texas is one of the only states who has a surplus of high school graduates, so they will try to recruit there; The “Texas WUE” is a WOU-offered tuition rate only and is not a program sanctioned by the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE), the administrating body of the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program
 - Public comments: faculty came in to advocate for more pay for tenured and NTT instructors
 - Majority of Board of Trustees meeting was about WOU’s finances: we are not in the red as an institution, but didn’t know this til approx 2 mo ago; 5mil dollars surplus discovered (rather than a 1.5mil shortfall); the surplus was being “stored” mostly in Facilities; philosophy of how to spend money on campus will be changing; department heads will receive specific training on the new budgeting process.
- **Faculty Senate report:**

- there will be two staff representatives on the University Technology Committee; lots of overlap among 3 previous technology-related committees; more to come in the future; there's a possibility of combining committees and task force into one;
- BS/BA requirements may be overhauled; new program proposals will default to Bachelor of Arts; programs wanting a Bachelor of Science designation will have to make the argument for

Old Business:

- **Executive Committee Proposal:** no discussion
- **EC Presidential Extension Proposal:** no discussion
- **Staff for Students Scholarship Update:** no discussion

New Business:

- **Staff Senate Bylaws:**
 - B.1. -- “secretary/recorder” changed to “secretary/treasurer”
 - G.2. -- change “vice president/recorder” to “secretary/treasurer”
 - G.4 -- change “vice president/recorder” to “secretary/treasurer”
 - E.5.c.2 -- change “vice president/recorder” to “secretary/treasurer”
 - 2. -- change to “The president of Staff Senate will serve as ex-officio and will not have voting rights, except in the event of a tied vote.”
 - 5.c -- typo: should be “nominations are”

Kara moves to approve the current suggested changes in bylaws and postpone the discussion on thorough Bylaw review until July; Andrew seconds; approved 10-0-0

- **Staff Senate Executive Committee Elections:** secret ballot
 - **Results:**
 - President: Jesse Poole
 - Vice President: Rip Horsey
 - Secretary/Treasurer: Kara Westervelt Parker

Announcements:

- WOU CIP program is accepting applications; due on Friday April 20, 2018 -- Winter & Spring term internships

Adjournment:

Kara moves to adjourn; Rip seconds; motion approved 10-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:26pm