

HSU Staff Senate Minutes
Wednesday, August 9, 2017

Members Present: Brian Bagwell, Randy McCauley, Sheri Phillips, Ermatine Johnson, Vickie Shipley, Christina Jones, Carrie Roberson, Jacob Bland, Forrest Schultz, Krystal McLane, Chanda Hooten, Lisa Ayres (Alternate for Erin Poe), Jimmy Elgas

Members Absent: Reo Cummings, Shelia Hollis, Earl Beasley, Yvette Bragg, Jordan Argo

The regular meeting of the Henderson Staff Senate was held on August 9, 2017 in the Cabe Room. President Chanda Hooten called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. Minutes from the June 14, 2017 meeting were approved as amended.

II. President Reports:

President Hooten reminded the Senators of the quarter change of the Staff Excellence Awards and stated the first quarter ended in July. Hooten reports that there are eight nominations for the Staff Excellence Award, three nominations for the Standout Support Staff Award for Customer Service and one nomination for the Staff Award for Diversity and Inclusion. The winner of the 1st quarter staff excellence will be selected by the committee soon and will be recognized with a surprise visit from President Dr. Jones. Hooten expressed the importance of the staff members to vote for nominees in order to keep the awards program. She encouraged Senators to continue to nominate fellow staff members and encourage other staff members to do the same.

President Hooten stated that Dr. Jones and Dr. Powell asked to remember that customer service to our students is our number one priority as the fall semester approaches.

President Hooten reported that the Human Resource Department has coordinated a professional development day with Andy Masters as the guest speaker. The date is October 5th and there will be four sessions on different topics. More information will be sent out by the Human Resource Department.

President Hooten expressed her gratitude to the Financial Aid Department for working on Saturday, July 29th and staying after hours on various days to get things caught up and ready for our students. She also informed the Senators that the business office services for the students that are regularly set up during registration day in the Garrison Center, will stay in the business office this semester. Refund checks will be given out on the 1st floor of the Womack building.

President Hooten gave an update on the ERP selection. Dr. Powell stated that the company will be selected within the next week and then we will be able to move forward.

President Hooten noted that the Conversation Cafe series is intended to provide a civil, respectful, and learning context for the free exchange of ideas, something essential to our mission as an Institution of Higher Learning. Our hope is everyone in from our campus community will participate (Students, Faculty and Staff).

The topic of the first Conversation Cafe of the fall will be Monday, August 21st from 4-5:30 in the Grand Ballroom. This will be targeted to our incoming freshmen and will be a repeat of the event from the spring. The topic will be Fake News--what it is, its impact, how it proliferates, and how to spot it. Dr. Mike Taylor will present the topic, providing context to the small-group discussions that will constitute the main part of the session. These discussions will be hosted but

not controlled, both open and civil. Their purpose is to facilitate exchange of ideas without anger or recrimination.

The second event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th from 3-4:30. This one will cover Free Speech and the First Amendment. The 3rd will be "Conversation Stoppers" and it will be held on Tuesday October 10th from 3-4:30. The final event of the fall will be November 15th from 3-4:30 and the topic will be Immigration and the Travel Ban.

The Back to School Family Picnic will be on August 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

III. Committee Reports:

- A. **Election Committee**-Jacob Bland will contact the alternates for Earl Beasley (no longer employed by HSU) and Shelia Hollis to determine their replacement until the new election takes place.
- B. **Textbook Scholarship Committee**-The winner for the fall scholarship was Cindy Dillavou. In November there will be new nominations for the spring semester winner.
- C. **Staff Handbook Committee**-The final draft has been looked at by Elaine Kneebone and is now being reviewed for approval from President Dr. Jones and Dr. Powell.
- D. **Survey/Shared Governance Committee**- No report at this time.
- E. **Staff Emergency Fund Committee**- No report at this time.
- F. **Faculty Senate Report**-No report. Please read the Faculty Senate minutes.

IV. Old Business:

A. Ratifying Staff Senate Constitution:

President Dr. Jones approved the constitution and it is now waiting to be presented to the Board of Trustees at the next board meeting in September. Special elections for new senators and for change in senators will need to wait until the final approval from the Board of Trustees. Elections for both new and changing senators will be done during the November Staff Senate meeting.

B. Campus Dining:

President Hooten thanked Dr. Powell and the management team at Sodexo. Thanks to his efforts in negotiating the Sodexo contract, employees will be able to eat in the dining hall for \$4.00 plus tax. The price is the same for dinner as well. You can also check with their office about putting a meal plan on your HSU ID rather than paying at the door each time. Hooten expressed the importance of our students seeing staff and faculty members outside of the office and classrooms and feels that it's a good way to network and socialize with our co-workers across campus.

Carrie Roberson reported that alumni is working on new events for homecoming weekend. Including blocking off the street in front of Slim & Shorty's for alumni to come listen to a Henderson band. Also they have partnered with other local restaurants that will be staying open after the game for fans. More details will be coming out from alumni as we get closer to the event.

V. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

The next Staff Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Cabe Room at the Garrison Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Krystal McLane

Staff Senate Secretary