

UA Little Rock Staff Senate

May 16, 2019

Student Services Center Auditorium

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Angelita Faller, president, welcomed the membership and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. Review Minutes

- Angelita Faller asked for a review of the March minutes.
- Motion to approve by Dara Goad.
- Seconded by Ross Wendy Orvis.
- Accepted, voted and approved.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Wendy Orvis provided the Treasurer's report.
 - \$2,657.27 in maintenance.
 - \$785.27 in agency funds.
- Motion to approve by Melody Weigel.
- Seconded by Dara Goad.
- Accepted, voted and approved.

IV. Staff Committee Updates

- Staff Awards Ceremony - Melody Weigel
 - Ceremony was held on April 26 in EIT auditorium.
 - Twenty-six graduates, 18 retirees, and 98 people celebrating milestone years of service were honored.
 - Three \$75 book scholarships, two \$250 Staff Senate scholarships, and three \$1,000 Staff Achievement Award prizes were awarded.
 - The ceremony came in approximately \$800 under budget.

V. Open Forum

- Report on Policy Advisory Council meeting with Sodexo.
 - High school (eStem students) be dining in Ross Hall starting Fall 2019.
 - A dining services committee will be formed. Access to southside of DSC not resolved yet.
 - Additional open seating and express lanes will be added in the DSC.
 - Affordable meals will be available to faculty and staff.

- Starbucks will be built in Old Student Union building and will open in January 2020.
- Upcoming Elections
 - Elections for Staff Senate will be held on June 3.

VI. Guest speaker - Chancellor Andrew Rogerson answered questions and concerns from staff members.

- We need to determine who we are as a university.
 - A new marketer has been hired who will help determine our brand.
 - We are an engine of social and economic mobility and a driver of economic development in Little Rock.
 - Many of our students are first generation, and our university helps them make their dreams come true.
 - Last year, we graduated 2,020 undergraduates, 300 master's degrees, and 110 doctoral degrees.
- The chancellor discussed methods on how we plan to increase enrollment.
 - Fall scholarship application deadline has been extended to Aug. 1.
 - A help desk website was created where applicants can submit questions and get a response within one hour.
 - If questions are not responded to in a timely manner, they immediately go to the chancellor's office.
- The university will continue our commitment to liberal arts education and Division I athletics.
 - Employers want soft skills that a liberal arts education provides.
 - The women's basketball team won the Sun Belt championship and the women's soccer team had their best season in history last year.
- Our trustees are concerned about deferred maintenance.
 - Deferred maintenance will cost \$65 million. (This is an issue with universities across America.)
 - Physics and Astronomy Building have been renovated. The Donaghey Student center has a new roof. Stabler Hall has had lots of repairs.
 - A new wrestling center is being built from a \$1.3 million donation from a donor.

- The Beautification Committee is planting trees, flower beds, and painting lines on a very small budget.
- Downtown campus opened with 4,000 square feet of meeting space.
- Signature Experience (semester-long creative projects with students and faculty) has been a huge success. This was financed with \$140,000 from donations. Study Abroad is considered a signature experience.
- We are Carnegie R2 classified university. This classification is based on how much research money a university brings in. Fayetteville is R1, and ASU is R2.
- Recruitment and retention committees will be formed to address current issues.
- Budget issues were addressed.
 - The university is working on balancing the budget.
 - Trustees now look at net asset worth instead of operating costs. This is a Moody's credit rating that evaluates risk. (See deferred maintenance above.)
 - Right now, we have an \$11.5 million deficit. This includes depreciation on our buildings. (For instance, Windgate cost \$21 million and depreciates \$800,000 per year.)
 - We've made cuts, and are submitting a budget with a \$6.5 million shortfall. We will pitch that we need time to grow. We can't make any decisions on cuts until we get feedback from the trustees.

VII. Next meeting - June 20, 2019

VIII. Adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

In attendance:

Dr. Charles Azebeokhai - Human Resources

Yuliana Barajas - DSC

Don Bolinger - Theatre Arts & Dance

Toni Boyer Stewart - Communications & Marketing

Deletta Browning - Graduate School

Sylvester Cartwright - Human Resources

Reed Claiborne - Disability Resource Center

Samantha DeVilbiss - CSSC
Angie Faller - Communications & Marketing
Erin Flowers - EIT
Dara Goad - Human Resources
Dale Fonville - Mail Services
Frances Frazier - Trojan Academic Advisor Support Center
Richard Harper - Dean of Students
Crystal Hunnicutt - Graduate Institute of Technology
Steve Hyatt - Bowen School of Law
Tim Kessler - CALS
Jeremy Laxton - Admissions
Sharonda Lipscomb - STAR
Charles McCloud - ITS
Jessica McKinney - eLearning
Rodolfo Morales - DSC
Wendy Orvis - ASBTDC
Leslie Parker - Study Abroad
Mia Phillips - Multicultural Center
Karmen Robinson - Intramural Sports
Sabrena Rodgers-Lee - CSSC
Rosalie Shahan - MidSouth
Allen Stanley - Contract and Auxiliary Services
Desiree Taggard - Procurement Services
Bud Tillman - ITS
Mary Tillman - Human Resources
Minnie Walker - Graduate School
Whitney Walker - Communications & Marketing
Melody Weigel - Bowen School of Law
Lauren Wilson - Library