



STAFF SENATE

Staff Senate Monthly Meeting
Thursday, October 21, 2021

[Attendance List](#)

via [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

I. Welcome (58 participants)

Called to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. Guest Speaker

A. Debra Simpson-Webster from HR

1. Open Enrollment (over at 10:20 a.m.)

- Open enrollment begins Monday, October 25th, 2021 at 12 p.m.
- Benefits eligible employees will receive a task in Workday that says open enrollment has begun.
- HR will host meetings throughout the open enrollment period to answer questions.
- Tobacco surcharge – If an individual fails to complete the attestation or attests that they are a tobacco user then there is a \$50 surcharge.
- Employees can make changes to their benefit plans including adding and removing people from their plan during the open enrollment period.
 - Documentation is required to add dependents.
- Changes will be made effective January 1, 2022.
- If employees have no changes they still must complete the tobacco attestation in Workday.
- Employees can reach out to HR for any needed accommodations in completing open enrollment.
- There are three major changes in benefits for this open enrollment period.
 - Vision Insurance
 - The carrier is changing from Superior Vision to EyeMed effective 1/1/2022.
 - Employees will be allowed to increase their optional life insurance coverage or opt in to the coverage at up to 3x their salary with no evidence of insurability.
 - Voluntary short-term disability coverage will be offered 1/1/2022.
 - Short term disability pays 60% of pre-disability annual salary.
 - The carrier will be the Standard.
 - Employees must reenroll in flexible spending in order for it to continue.
 - No changes are being made to dental or the retirement plan.

III. Review of Minutes (61 participants)

[September 16, 2021 Minutes](#)

Approved

IV. Treasurer's Report

A. President Shahan presented the treasurer's report.

1. \$5175 added to the budget this year
2. Approximately \$9000 total in the budget
3. President Shahan is doing research to make sure charges are all accounted for from last years staff awards.
4. Funds are available for committees to use if necessary. Reach out to the executive team if you have an idea that will require funding.

V. Committee Reports

A. Staff Senate Committee Updates

1. Blood Drive

- Reed Claiborne – Chair
 - over 40 pints of blood at the last blood drive (this may be a UA Little Rock record)
 - Blood drive is October 27th (10 am – 3pm)
 - Posters are available Monday in the DRC to promote the blood drive

2. Communications

- Lydia Perry - Chair
 - The committee will be releasing a newsletter around November 15th.
 - Announcements will be sent about the Helping Hands Food Drive.
 - The Staff Senate website has been updated

3. Fundraising

- Ashley Nipp - Chair
 - Annual Chipotle fundraiser is October 27th
 - 33% of the proceeds will be given to Helping Hands

4. Governance – Cody

- Cody Henslee - Chair
 - The next meeting is being planned to discuss Article 5 of the Constitution.

5. Helping Hands

- Serifatu Walton-Buford - Chair
 - Distributed boxes around campus
 - Developed calendar with the food being asked for each week
 - Traditional American holiday dinner food is being collected

6. Issues and Concerns
 - No report
7. Professional Development
 - No report
8. Staff Awards Ceremony
 - President Shahan for Ross Bradley
 - Going to be a drop-in format again this year
 - Send questions or concerns to Ross Bradley

B. University Staff Senate Appointments

1. Building and Grounds
 - No report

C. University Staff Appointments

1. Athletics – Chicketta Jackson
 - No report
2. Sustainability – President Shahan
 - Sustainability day is going on today.
3. Traffic
 - No report
4. Dining
 - No report

VI. Guest Speaker

A. Brooke Magallanes – Discover Day

- Discover needs at least 100 volunteers
- Sign up to volunteer at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Q0je3kXb7gGAnYlbb6U_KIpFhYpv0QayRXoYy9rphdY/edit#gid=613353446
- Wear your Trojan gear

B. Samantha Wiley – All In

- The campaign is based on participation – no minimum dollar amount to count as a contribution.
- Hot chocolate bar in DSC November 9th from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Donating to Helping Hands is an option

VII. Open Forum –

A. Vote on Memo to Chancellor Drale

1. Cody moved to vote on the resolution
2. Ashley Nipp – 2nd
3. Memo to Chancellor Drale - passed

B. Staff Senate Photo

1. Suggestion made for an outdoor photo
2. Marketing & Communications photographer could possibly shoot the photo

C. Heather Reed –

1. First Generation celebration coming up
2. You can request signage and stickers
3. Dr Rice and Cassie Jo Gehring awarded a grant for childcare

support

4. New Director for childcare position is posted

VIII. Adjourn 10:55 a.m.

A. 1st - Kesha Robinson

B. 2nd - Heather Reed

IX. Next Meeting - Thursday, November 18, 2021