

**Staff Senate Monthly Meeting**  
**March 9, 2023 at 3:00pm**  
**Virtual Attendance via Microsoft Teams**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order** Dana Lopez, Staff Senate Chair Elect

**Approval of Minutes** Senator Joseph Moore  
February minutes were approved.

**Campus Update** Dr. Brandon A Frye, Vice Chancellor Student Affairs

Key priorities – new strategic plan and initiatives based off the UNC plan refresh; Staff Development process – what are we doing internally as a division to help our staff develop and increase their quality of life, their competencies and well-being; Student success and student engagement development – career readiness and a welcoming environment with collaborative partnerships; Being good stewards of our resources during challenging times financially coming out of COVID till enrollment resets a little bit before the drop off in 2025. I am thankful for the good work that my predecessor, Dr. Hardy, lined up. They have a strong team over in student affairs, but just going to try to continue to elevate and create excellence.

**Executive Committee Updates**

Staff Senate Executive Committee

**Dana Lopez** – At a recent UNC System Board of Governors meeting, the board voted to prohibit DEI statements and compelled speech from admissions, hiring, promotion and tenure. The policy prohibits any school from forcing individuals to affirmatively ascribe to or opine about beliefs, affiliations, ideals, or principles regarding matters of contemporary political debate or social action as a condition to admission, employment, or professional advancement. We will let you know as we receive more information on how this impacts our institution. We will provide the link for you to review and then if you have any questions or concerns, you can always e-mail us at [staffsenate@ecu.edu](mailto:staffsenate@ecu.edu). We have community service opportunities in the upcoming months and would like for you to participate for these events. You can use your Community Service Leave and I would refer you to the policy. If you have any questions regarding that policy, you can e-mail Jeff Dozier in Human Resources.

*UNC Policy Manual 300.5.1 Political Activities of Employees*

<https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/doc.php?type=pdf&id=125>

*Community Service Leave Website*

<https://humanresources.ecu.edu/benefits/leave/community-service/>

**John Southworth** – Email was sent on March 3rd requesting that you fill out the survey based on the DEI Commission on Student Access and Success recommendations and objectives. If you have not already filled it out, we would ask you to please do that, and please share this with any faculty, staff, or students. We want to get as many responses to

this as possible. If you do not have this email or cannot find it, just let us know and we will send it again.

Laupus Library is holding their annual Spring Fling and a diversity information fair. We are asking for volunteers to help set up a Staff Senate booth at the Spring Fling. This will be April 4th from 11:00 AM to 1:30. Please reach out to me and let me know if there is anybody who is available, even if you cannot serve the whole time. If you can just help us staff the booth for a period of that time, then we will be able to participate in that event.

**Joseph Moore** – The Treasurer’s report was sent out. We were able to collect from the UNC Staff Assembly to clear out the balance that we had accrued for our senators that were participating in the UNC System Office events. We have had some other charges on our discretionary funds. We did have one charge that was not supposed to be there, but that has been moved off at this point. You can see the list of the charges on there. We did deposit the proceeds that we received from the Chipotle fundraiser as well as the Pirates popcorn, and that was split between those two funds. We appreciate your support. We had a Chairs meeting this past week and we got budget requests that have come in.

## **Committee Updates**

**Bylaws (John Southworth)** – We have wrapped the succession planning; we are still getting that updated in the official copy of the bylaws and up on the website and officially recorded. In our last meeting, we were discussing what are the goals for next year.

**Communication & Marketing (Melissa Parks)** – We have been working on a lot of flyers for events that are coming up. We have been working on flyers to promote those events as well as corresponding social media posts. Chad has done a couple updates to the website.

**Human Resources (Loretta McDaniel)** – As for the bereavement plan update and the flexible work arrangement, we are still waiting on the Staff Assembly to meet and discuss and the university to make some final decisions on that. The staff emeritus nominations – we are going to pick the awards out this afternoon from A1 Awards, and we have all the gifts. The gifts include tickets from Theater & Arts and Athletics. We need to say a big thank you to all these groups that have donated items and the Athletic Ticket Office. That event will take place on March 28th. State employee insurance terms, there is no update. We will have a community outreach that we are working on for April 10th. It will be available for the whole Senate and is being coordinated with Mr. Beast at his warehouse and it is a volunteer basis, they said we could have fifteen, but no more than twenty volunteers. We are working on proctoring for Pitt County School system. Sign up will be during the April meeting. We will be helping with elementary school, middle school, and high school, they are in desperate need of volunteers to help during the testing that goes on at the end of the year.

**Membership (Jessica Emick)** – We are in elections right now. Elections are running until March 27th and there were four divisions that should have received ballots. Those are Academic Affairs, Admin & Finance, Student Affairs and University Advancement. If you hear of anybody who has any issues with the ballots or if you have any feedback, please feel free to shoot staff Senate an e-mail and we will take care of it.

**Leadership & Professional Development (Grace Tolson)** – Coach McNeil will not be able to join us for the BALL event. We are in the final stages of having another speaker selected. Look forward to that communication to be coming out and a link to sign up. It will of course be offered virtually as well as in person, but we hope you will come in person. That will be April 12th from one to three in Ballroom B at the main student center. On April 26th, we will be partnering with Rob Weatherly in HR for a special session in development and it is entitled Thriving in the Modern Workplace. That will be at 8:30am and run till 9:30 or 10.

**Recognition And Rewards (Stephanie Stroud)** – We are coming up quickly on Staff Appreciation Month. We sent out the e-mail earlier this week for the Outstanding Staff Awards. Soon the RSVP for the Staff Appreciation Meal will be emailed. We will have the meal on Main Campus in the dining halls or the cookout around Lake Laupus. The cookout will be Thursday, April 20th. We will have discount tickets to the ECU Baseball Game for Friday, April 14th. Be on the lookout for a calendar via email explaining all the events for the month.

**Scholarship (April Rouse)** – In the process of working on our last two fundraisers for this term. The next one will be the Panera Bread fundraiser on next Wednesday, March 15th, from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. We will receive 20% of the profits during that period. The last fundraiser we have coming up is the online auction. Donations can be dropped off to Dana Lopez at the Eakin Student Center, or Michelle Bone at the Laupus Library. The dates for the Auction are the first thru the 14th.

**Announcements**

**Jessica Emick** – Pirate Nation Gives, our annual day of giving, is coming up quickly on March 22nd. It is going to be a great day full of challenges around campus, so if you can participate and make a gift to the university that day, we would certainly appreciate it.

**Chad Carwein** - In recognition of International Women’s Day and Women’s History Month, next week there will be two film screenings. One on Tuesday, March 14th that will take place in the evening. You can find more information about that online. It is sponsored by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. The second screening will take place on Thursday, March 16th in the MCSC Black Box theater. The film entitled Honeyland with an English professor leading the discussion afterwards. This is part of the Sustainability Filming discussion series, and it is open to the public.

**Q: Parking Updates**

A: The executive committee asked the Chancellor and his cabinet about this at our last meeting, and we were told that parking has made a few new hires that have been trained and are monitoring parking lots.

**Adjourned**

Dana Lopez, Staff Senate Chair Elect

**Next Meeting**

April 13, 2023 at 3:00pm via Microsoft Teams

**Meeting Link**