



ECU Staff Senate Minutes

Date: May 12, 2022

Time: 3:00pm to 5:00pm

Location: Teams

Call to Order: Senator Aisha Powell

Approval of Minutes: Aisha Powell

April minutes were approved

Guest Speaker:

Chancellor Philip Rogers – University Update

The graduation ceremony was a huge success. Over 4000 students attended and nearly 5400 degrees were conferred. In addition to the University ceremony, we were able to have individual department graduations as well.

Thank you to the Staff Senate for your hard work this past year. Activities and events hosted by the Staff Senate have a major impact on the campus community. The Executive Committee meets with the Chancellor's cabinet monthly to share information and provide updates. One of the goals the committee shared was to increase the visibility of the Staff Senate across campus. Staff Senate is encouraged to increase visibility of the senate by hosting campus events, sharing information with the staff body and engaging our students.

The UNC strategic planning process will wrap up by the end of May and then ECU will begin the refresh of our strategic plan. Also, we are in the process of launching Project Kitty Hawk and ECU Health. The branding process for ECU Health was launched this month and people will begin to see changes across the hospital. The development of Intersect East is underway, working to recruit local businesses to partner with our research and innovation campus to provide opportunities for students. Lastly, the Comprehensive Campaign has been a huge success, we have reached \$400 million and are working to meet our goal of \$500 million.

Governor Cooper announced his proposed budget for 2022 putting the universities in a strong negotiation position. The budget funds each of the Board of Governors approved priorities such as building reserves and K-12 plans. The Governor is proposing an additional increase of 2.5% which would total the increase to 5% for all state employees. A retention bonus of \$1500 is also being proposed for all state employees which would be paid half in November 2022 and the other half in April 2023.

Dr. Linda Champion – ECU Dining Services

Dining offers three meal plans available to faculty and staff in addition to new venues coming to campus. The three plans include:

- The "Try Me" Plan – includes three meal swipes or 2 pirate meals for \$30.
- The 20 Plan – includes 20 meal swipes plus 1 meal invitation to the holiday meal for \$120.
- The "PIRATE" Plan includes 15 meal swipes, 5 pirate meals, \$25 gold bucks, and 1 meal invitation to the holiday meal for \$120.

These meals do not expire, and the dining hall is working on a payroll deduction option for employees who prefer that payment option.

Senator Joseph Moore – Presentation of Outgoing Senators

Thank you to all our Senators for their commitment and hard work. Senators from each division were recognized during the presentation and certificates will be mailed to Senators within the next couple of weeks.

Executive Committee Comments

Chair – Aisha Powell

- The Chancellor's Commission on Diversity Equity and Inclusion hosted two listening sessions for student access and success. The session revealed students has difficulty navigating the amount of information given to them. There will be one last listening session on May 27th, faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend.
- Forming an Ad Hoc Committee to work on our Summer Yield activities and assist with enrollment. Amy Eason will chair this committee.
- A national search has been launched for the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. This search will be chaired by Vice Chancellor Coleman and co-chaired by Vice Chancellor Chris Stansbury.
- Attend the BOT Athletics and Advancement Committee meeting. We will be playing against NC State in the fall. We hope senators can participate in concessions to help fund our scholarships. One challenge Athletics is facing is reduced ticket sales due to games being available on streaming devices. The committee is in search of creative ways to combat this issue and increase ticket sales. The Pirate Nation Campaign goal was a success, and we are close to our goal of \$500 million.

Vice Chair – Lisa Ormond

- Many have inquired about flexible work arrangements due to current agreements ending on June 30th. A committee has been created to review the current arrangements and how it will be implemented on July 1st.
- Planning the structure of Staff Senate membership due to changes with the Health Sciences division. This year, the division will function as it always has but exec is working on reorganizing the membership structure to incorporate divisional changes.

Treasurer – Robin Mayo

- The Treasurer's report was sent this afternoon. If anyone has any questions, please contact Robin at mayor@ecu.edu.

Secretary – Kristin Wooten

- Attended the BOT University Affairs Committee Meeting.
- Review of Operational Metrics
 - Below goal of new freshmen applications by 1,065. Target was 23,057.
 - Below goal of new application deposits by 344. Target was 4,745.
- Student Enrollment & Recruitment Updates
 - Enrollment has declined from last year with a total enrollment decline of 1.4%
 - Transfer applications submitted declined by 8.0% & transfer enrollment deposits paid declined by 10.3%
- Intercollegiate Athletics Survey Report
 - The survey fulfills the requirement to disclose the academic characteristics and performance of the UNC system's student-athletes and institutional athletics departments.
 - Information was sent to UNC chiefs of staff on February 16, 2022, and the deadline to complete is June 15, 2022.
- Center for Stem Education Designation

- The Center for STEM Education requests that the UNC System center designation be removed and that the activities be incorporated into Office of the Dean of the College of Education. Removal is expected to improve administrative/financial efficiency while maintaining essential services. This action was approved.

Parliamentarian – Olivia Cottrell

- Summer session has formed, and SGA has met twice. They will have a full cabinet by the fall.

Committee Updates

- Scholarship (Lisa Ormond on behalf of April Rouse)- Three goals for this year was increasing fundraising by 5%, improve promotional efforts in collaboration with Communication & Marketing, and increase the number of scholarships awarded. All goals were accomplished this year and are working on goals for the next term.
- Rewards & Recognition (Susan Eckert)- Successfully hosted events such as the Wellness walk and Staff Appreciation Week. Will be creating a calendar for the upcoming term to assist with event planning.
- Diversity Committee (Aisha Powell on behalf of Amy Bright)- Accomplished many goals this year such as inviting the ERGs to speak at the Staff Senate meeting this past August. Facilitated other events such as Women in Leadership Panel and several roundtable events. For the next term, will partner with other groups on campus.
- Leadership & Professional Development (Grace Tolson)- The B.A.L.L. event was a huge success with many attendees in person and online. Received great feedback from the post event survey which will be used to plan the next B.A.L.L. event. Will work with HR to facilitate more leadership resources/activities for staff.
- Communication & Marketing (Michelle Bone)- Completed website updates and working with Melissa Parks as she prepares to take over in the next term.
- Bylaws (John Southworth)- Started the year with three goals, 1) is the Bylaws Committee needed? 2) Review removal from office procedures for senators and 3) develop coordination with the faculty senate. The committee addressed/accomplished these goals by finding that the Bylaws Committee is needed, removal procedures have been updated and an Ex-Officio Faculty Senate seat has been added. Recommends the incoming group review the bylaws for any discrepancies, develop a succession plan for executive seats and partner with the Diversity Committee.
- Membership (Joseph Moore)- Confirmed the roster for the upcoming year and have filled most seats. There are three seats open in Athletics, two in the Chancellor's division and one available in REDE. Worked on completing the staff senate video with the Communications & Marketing Committee. Also worked on reviewing areas that were underserved across campus. This information was shared with Vice Chancellors to increase representation.
- Human Resources Committee (Loretta McDaniel)- Completed the Bereavement Plan, Employee Emergency Assistance Program, Flexible Work Arrangements as well as awarding 10 individuals with the Staff Emeritus Award.

Election of Executive Committee Members

The new Executive Committee members have been elected. Members are as follows:

- Chair – Aisha Powell
- Chair-Elect – Joshua Puckett
- Vice Chair – John Southworth
- Treasurer – Joseph Moore
- Secretary – Jennifer Jones

Congratulations to the new members, we look forward to an awesome term.

Open Discussion

- Parking & Transportation is an auxiliary department on campus meaning it is fully self-funded. The budget and operating funds is generated solely from ticket sales and on campus events. The state requires Parking & Transportation to charge for parking on state property however, ECU has the lowest parking fees within the UNC System. The department aims to keep costs as low as possible for employees.
- Thank you to everyone for assisting with the graduation ceremonies. This year we will have 10 orientation sessions for new students. We are aiming to provide a welcoming environment for students and their families.
- ECU's Academic Library Services department just completed their annual Paraprofessional Conference. Over 400 people registered to attend, and it was a successful event.
- Support Pirate baseball this weekend as they play against South Florida.
- The College of Nursing welcomes their new Dean Dr. Bimbola F. Akintade.
- Associate Vice Chancellor Dr. Michael Van Scott is retiring. The Interim Vice Chancellor Dr. Sharon Paynter will start in June.
- Summer Staff Senate meetings will occur via Microsoft Teams. The meetings may transition back to face to face however, it will be discussed during the first Executive Committee meeting.

Announcements: Next Meeting – June 9, 2022, 3pm-5pm via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Link: https://studentsecuedu66932-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/r/personal/powellai_ecu_edu/Documents/Recordings/Staff%20Senate%20Monthly%20Meeting-20220512_145954-Meeting%20Recording.mp4?csf=1&web=1&e=und6io