

Staff Senate Monthly Meeting

March 14, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.
East Carolina Heart Institute Auditorium (ECHI)
In-person attendance for Staff Senators and Alternates
Virtual attendance available through [livestream link](#)

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Dana Lopez, Staff Senate Chair

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. She shared meeting best practices with staff, guests, and those who attended virtually. Speaking is limited to senators, alternates, ex-officio members, and individuals who have been granted speaking privileges before the meeting. Senators should state their name and their division before speaking. Non-senators who would like to speak at future meetings can notify Staff Senate by emailing staffsenate@ecu.edu.

Roll Call

Christiana Shoopman, Staff Senate Secretary

A roll call was conducted to determine if a quorum was present.

Senators absent: Kimberly Aheimer (Administration and Finance), Lindsay Arnold (Academic Affairs), Kristy Ashley (Athletics), Jenna Boardman (University Advancement), Michelle Bone (Academic Affairs), Dawn Boyd-Cribari (Administration and Finance), Dri-Zonda Brown-Smith (Academic Affairs), Coleman Cannon Hinson (Brody School of Medicine), Margaret Dodson (Brody School of Medicine), Amy Eason (Academic Affairs), Todd Inman (Administration and Finance), Joseph Moore (Academic Affairs), Jennifer Muir (Brody School of Medicine), Melissa Parks (Academic Affairs), Michelle Smith (Academic Affairs), and Kristin Wooten (Brody School of Medicine).

Alternates present: Selena Barrow (Administration & Finance), Holly Buck (Academic Affairs), Summer Edwards (Academic Affairs), Kelley Evans (Administration & Finance), Kimrey Miko (Chancellor's Division), Kristina Page (Student Affairs), and Jeremy Perry (University Advancement)

Approval of Minutes

Christiana Shoopman, Staff Senate Secretary

The minutes from the February 8, 2024, meeting were emailed to members of the Staff Senate and no corrections were received. The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Campus Update

Dana Lopez, Staff Senate Chair

Chair Lopez presented the campus update on behalf of Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance, Stephanie Coleman. Topics included state funding, budget adjustment, career banding and market salary analysis, the Employee Engagement Survey, and upcoming dates of prospective students visiting campus with their families. Chair Lopez thanked VC Coleman for providing the following information.

ECU's state funding is adjusted based on the change in resident student enrollment. Calendar year 2023 had fewer resident student credit hours than calendar year 2022, therefore, we will have a budget reduction next fiscal year of about \$9.2 million. The budget adjustment will be made up of three components: the Faculty Realignment Incentive Program (FRIP), operating funds at the institutional level, and some vacant positions across the university based on vacancy history. The specific vacant positions selected will be up to each vice chancellor or the Provost, and their respective leaders.

Legislators start the short session on April 24, 2024. Two of the system-wide priorities are enrollment funding on a recurring basis and labor market adjustment funding. Currently, the enrollment funding is partially recurring permanent and partially non-recurring temporary. The previous labor market ranges were based on 2007 and 2008 data and needed to be adjusted; however, there are potential compression issues and funding challenges. ECU wants to address these changes in a thoughtful and consistent manner for employees, and staff were asked for patience as they evaluate the impacts and develop strategies for moving forward. These strategies are likely to be implemented in phases and will be dependent on funding.

There has been no update regarding the timeline for updates to the EHRA salary ranges. EHRA employees are now referred to as Exempt Profession Staff (EPS).

The UNC System partnered with Buck Consulting to conduct a comprehensive review of SHRA career banding salary ranges and market salary analysis, and that work is complete. ECU has received the updated ranges; however, the data is being analyzed and has not been shared yet with ECU. The implementation of these ranges does not mean employees will receive a salary increase as there has not been any statewide funding attached to this initiative.

Pirates Aboard will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024. This is a day for admitted students and their families to attend ECU's campus wide-celebration and we hope they accept to attend ECU. Everyone was asked to put their best foot forward to make it a positive experience for students and their families.

The Employee Engagement Survey will be open for all permanent faculty and staff to complete from March 25 – April 8, 2024. This is the UNC System-sponsored survey on workplace satisfaction, which has taken place in 2018, 2020, and 2022 as part of the UNC System strategic plan. The survey will provide insights into faculty and staff engagement trends at the various institutions and across the system. It will be administered through an outside vendor, Modern Think. Modern Think is the only entity that can access the raw data, survey data, and individual responses. The System Office and the constituent institutions will not have access to the raw data. The survey will come directly from Modern Think. Staff were urged to respond to the survey. It should take about 15 minutes to complete.

Discussion: Senator Joani Zary, from the Brody School of Medicine, asked for the start date of the survey to be announced again.

Chair Lopez replied that the survey will open on March 25, 2024.

Pirate Nation Gives

Jennifer Watson, Senior Director of Annual Giving

Jennifer Watson shared a video to promote Pirate Nation Gives (PNG), which is ECU's annual day of giving. ECU will hold its 8th Annual Pirate Nation Gives on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. This is a 24-hour philanthropic opportunity to support all areas of ECU through the three different foundations:

1. ECU Foundation – supports all colleges and divisions on main campus, and the Alumni Association
2. ECU Health Foundation – supports the Health Sciences colleges and schools, and the hospital
3. ECU Educational Foundation – known as the Pirate Club

Jennifer Watson encouraged staff to support this initiative by making a financial contribution and urging other employees, alumni, friends, parents, students, businesses, foundations, and corporations to give. Donations can be given to approximately 3,000 fund categories and be received through the website at www.ecu.edu/piratenationgives, by calling 252-ECU-GIVE (252-328-4483), or in-person by visiting their office at the Greenville Centre.

Promotional “Arrrgh™ You Ready?” yard signs will be placed in high foot traffic areas around campus to help spread the word. Resource tags stating, “Philanthropy made this ECU resource possible!” will be placed in front of several buildings to help convey to students what philanthropy means and highlight that their tuition does not cover every service at ECU. Jennifer added that many students are surprised when they learn about the programs that are made possible because of donor support. The Brinkley-Lane Scholars and the Isley Innovation Hub are privately funded. Some of the buildings that are named on campus are privately funded. Banners will also be placed on the campus mall and near Laupus Library to educate and get people excited about giving. The QR codes on the banners go directly to the Pirate Nation Gives website.

Graduating students can receive a philanthropy honor cord to wear during commencement by donating \$20.24. This is the second year the philanthropy cords have been offered and they have been wildly successful. They can be purchased through the Pirate Nation Gives website or at the student involvement table, which will be set up at both student centers from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Students can use the \$20.24 to support any fund across the institution that they are passionate about. All students can get involved by participating in different activities. If they donate to PNG, post about PNG on social media, and write a thank you card to a PNG donor, they will receive a free Chick-fil-A sandwich.

Faculty and staff can get involved by sharing this information through social networks, using #PirateNationGives. Graphics will be added to the Pirate Nation Gives website that can be used to help promote participation. She thanked everyone who is currently giving, and those who will be donating for the first time. Our donation may help unlock one of the current challenges on campus. Students can search

for PeeDee squish toys hidden around campus in Greenville, at the Coastal Studies Institute, and the Tuscany campus to get \$500 to go towards a fund of their choice. Cutouts will be distributed for people to use to when taking photos around campus to promote the day of giving.

Jennifer Watson highlighted a few pirate initiatives, such as the fund recently created that supports mental health and wellbeing in Student Affairs. A former ECU football player has announced he will donate \$30,000 to help support this fund if ECU receives money from 25 donors who also give to this fund. One of the sororities will give \$5,000 if 16 donors give to a particular scholarship, a challenge has been set up for the Purple Pantry, and the club sports groups will compete to see who can win extra money for their particular sport.

Pirate Nation Gives has had a significant impact over the years. The university raised \$273,000 in 2017 when beginning this initiative. Last year, PNG took place during the Pursue Gold campaign, and almost \$12 million was raised from 2,300 donors. This campaign resulted in the most gifts received in a single day. This has brought in new donors and philanthropic dollars to help the programs, colleges, and schools across ECU.

Discussion: Chair Dana Lopez, from Student Affairs, referred to the recent changes in the rules around name, image, and likeness (“NIL”) of athletes and sports betting laws for NC, and that ECU has seen the creation of Team Boneyard, which is not affiliated with ECU Athletics or ECU University. She asked how this will affect the giving at ECU.

Jennifer Watson replied she did not know. Many people are extremely passionate about athletics who are terrific donors and many support the Pirate Club, and they also give through NIL. The Pirate Club will be very active during PNG. If you are interested in supporting one of our athletics teams, visit the Pirate Club website and select link to participate in PNG for a particular sport.

Vice Chair Dr. Lauren Thorn, from Student Affairs, commented that she noticed they are offering an Instagram filter on ECU’s Instagram webpage, and she enjoyed testing it out.

Jennifer Watson responded that was correct. A digital version is available to use if you do not have a hard copy of the cutout.

Faculty Senate Update

Dr. Anne Ticknor, Faculty Senate Chair and Professor in the College of Education

Dr. Anne Ticknor thanked Vice Chair, Dr. Lauren Thorn, for providing the first Staff Senate update during the last Faculty Senate meeting. Faculty Senate approved a change in their by-laws and constitution this past fall which added a staff senate representative, which is Chair Dana Lopez.

Dr. Ticknor provided an update on the Faculty Realignment Incentive Plan (FRIP). FRIP is an early retirement incentive for faculty but impacts the entire university. Funds for FRIP were allocated for five of the UNC System institutions through the state appropriations bill that passed in October 2023. The money ECU was allocated was the amount of deficit in our budget related to declining enrollment. ECU’s deficit is 5.8 million. Letters were sent to approximately 350 tenured faculty in December of 2023, although not all

of these faculty met the eligibility requirements. Those requirements included being at least 55 years of age, tenured, with ten years in the UNC System. These faculty were given until January 5, 2024, to review and decide if they wanted to accept this incentive to receive severance pay of their annual salary, in one lump sum. Only 56 faculty members indicated interest in the incentive. A second notification was sent to eligible faculty, and 3 additional faculty expressed interested. Dr. Ticknor stated she did not think this incentive was advertised well, as she received many frustrated comments from faculty, and there have been debates on whether it is good for the individual departments for faculty to retire under this incentive.

Faculty who expressed an interested in FRIP received either an acceptance or a denial letter, based on their eligibility. Acceptance letters also included information about the next steps in the process along with restrictions that apply if they retire under this incentive (i.e., cannot apply for another tenure track faculty position in the UNC system in the 12-months following their retirement). Faculty who have accepted FRIP have the flexibility to change their mind. ECU will have to provide the System Office with the dollar amount we will be taking on March 8, 2024. If any funds are left over, the other UNC institutions can ask for that money.

Discussion: Chair Dana Lopez referred to the campus update information from VC Coleman which stated that FRIP, operating funds at the institutional level, and positions that had been vacant for a long duration would help make up the deficit. Chair Lopez asked how the other two areas would be impacted if ECU did not use all of the funds allocated for FRIP.

Dr. Ticknor's assumption is if ECU does not get to the \$5.2 million mark for FRIP, then the other areas may be looked at differently. She added that the academic deans and directors received an email of what their particular college or academic unit needed to cut in terms of a budget. Dr. Ticknor provided example scenarios of operating budgets and how much would need to be cut. She reiterated that faculty who are eligible for FRIP have the choice to not accept the incentive up until their retirement date, which may cause challenges for budgets. The PowerPoint presentation provided by VC Coleman and Provost Cogger at the February 26, 2024 Faculty Senate meeting is posted on the Faculty Senate's website. They will return to the March 26, 2024 Faculty Senate meeting to share additional information and answer questions. Dr. Ticknor invited staff to view the live stream or the recording, and to access materials from their meetings. Questions can be funneled to Chair Lopez to ask at Faculty Senate meetings.

Secretary Christiana Shoopman, from Academic Affairs, asked if the five institutions have leftover FRIP money that is returned to the state, which will then be available for other institutions, what will be the priorities for those funds.

Dr. Ticknor responded that she does not know, but it is her understanding that other four institutions that were targeted have either met their FRIP monetary goal or have exceeded it. UNC Greensboro exceeded it, and they will receive funds to honor the overage. She does not anticipate that the other three institutions will have leftover money. At ECU, there was a low level of interest in this incentive, so there will most likely be money that we do not use. A UNC policy has been made regarding FRIP, so other institutions could be offered this incentive going forward. The FRIP money is slated to be used by 2025. ECU has elected to take it in 2024.

Dr. Ticknor also shared information on revisions that fall under policy 400.1 on academic programs and review in the UNC Policy Manual. When data from the Return on Investment (ROI) study was released to the Board of Governors (BOG), ECU was vocal about some data issues related to the study, since it looked at W-2 data, salary, and in-state earnings and did not consider graduates who left NC after graduation. Overall, ECU performed very well in the study, and the programs that did not do well were ones where graduates typically moved out of the state.

Many of the BOG members are from a business background, and have been interested in the return on investment, and what is good for the market. They have suggested in the policy revisions to tie our academic program reviews to the ROI data. Therefore, policy changes have been proposed to do more program review. Dr. Ticknor received a copy of the proposed policy from Faculty Assembly, and leadership across the UNC institutions have also received them for review and comments. In a week, feedback will be compiled. Faculty Assembly will provide one group of comments. Provosts will send in one set of comments. Policy changes will go into effect in the fall of 2024. Chair Ticknor stated the number of policy revisions received has been exhausting and not much time has been provided for feedback. Every time faculty are given an opportunity for feedback, they are meeting and providing comments in order to be engaged in the process. Dr. Ticknor added that if staff would like to provide feedback, she is happy to provide the documents and include comments from staff alongside their faculty feedback.

Discussion: Past Chair Aisha Powell, from Academic Affairs, asked when Faculty Senate holds their elections.

Dr. Ticknor replied that the call for elections came out today. A nominating committee is nominated at the February Faculty Senate meeting. That group then solicits volunteers for the three elected positions, which are the chair, vice chair, and secretary. The parliamentarian is appointed. The current faculty officers recorded a presentation yesterday to provide information on their positions. Elections will take place on April 30, 2024.

Past Chair Aisha Powell thanked Dr. Ticknor for her partnership with Staff Senate.

Dr. Ticknor thanked Past Chair Aisha Powell for starting this relationship. Dr. Ticknor added that when she took the position of Chair of the Faculty Senate, she and Past Chair Powell met through one of their service commitments and then continued to hold meetings together. Faculty Senate has continued this relationship with Chair Lopez, and they also meet with SGA leadership, which is a terrific way to have continued conversations across the three governing bodies. She thanked staff who work with their committees, and specifically named Senator Chad Carwein for his help on the Environment Committee.

Student Government Association Update

Joshua Crockett, SGA Attorney General

Joshua Crockett provided the update on behalf of SGA. SGA installed an e-waste bin to reduce e-waste on campus thanks to the SGA Director of Sustainable Engagement and Senator Chad Carwein's help. They received the Distinguished Inclusive Community Award, proposed Wellness Days to the Faculty Senate,

and SGA President Limon attended Advocacy Day in Raleigh, where he met with legislators in hopes move new initiatives forward.

SGA passed legislation about the Barnes and Noble First Day[®] program, and this was approved by the Chancellor's Cabinet. This fee-based program provides students with a box of all of their books and course materials, and also includes tips and advice for their upcoming semester to make it convenient for students to be prepared for their classes. He stated that SGA will partially cover the fee for this service and that this program will be a convenience for first-year students.

Discussion: Past Chair Aisha Powell, from Academic Affairs, asked if this program offers rental books.

Joshua Crockett replied students have the option to purchase or rent books. If you select to rent the books and do not return them by the deadline, you are charged full price for the book.

Senator Chad Carwein, from Administration and Finance, stated electronic books have become more common, and asked if this will include e-texts as part of the offerings in this package, along with the options to rent, purchase a hard copy, or electronic copy.

Joshua Crockett believes this is included in the Barnes and Noble options, but it will most likely be focused on physical textbooks.

Senator Carwein asked a follow up question if they have considered how this program may affect other local bookstores that provide textbooks for students.

Joshua Crockett replied their director stated that most first-year students buy their books from Dowdy, and because you have to opt into this program, you are not automatically charged. Students can make the choice on where to purchase their materials. [Correction note from information received after this meeting: Students are automatically enrolled in this program and will need to opt-out if they do not want to participate. This is not an opt-in program.]

Joshua Crockett provided additional updates that SGA will host a Town Hall at the end of the month with local leaders. Greenville City Council Member, Marion Blackburn, will be present.

The Association of Student Governments (ASG) will hold their next meeting in March at ECU.

Discussion: Past Chair Aisha Powell, from Academic Affairs, asked if SGA followed up with the Greenville City Council about the Crown Act and if it will be discussed at this meeting.

Joshua Crockett replied he is not sure if SGA President Limon followed up with City Council. He will try to ask Representative Blackburn at the Town Hall event. He will provide Staff Senate with the date and time of the Town Hall.

Past Chair Powell added that she will be attending this event and will ask.

SGA is working on an assembly bill to cover security costs for student events. Students have to pay for security at most student events of a certain size, so SGA has decided to pass a bill to help pay for this using their appropriations budget and transfer that money to be exclusively earmarked for student events that require security.

SGA has funded \$24,800.72 for student organizations.

President Limon spoke with the BOT and VC for Student Affairs Brandon Frye about doing research on “Togetherall” mental health to provide additional counseling opportunities for students.

SGA passed the following three constitutional amendments: (1) established a Director of Sustainable Engagement for future assemblies, (2) passed an amendment for ranked choice voting instead of the runoff system, and (3) adjusted the on-campus class requirement due to many mid-level classes being offered online now. SGA also has heard three judicial reviews, two elections appeals, and one bias hearing. A list of students who won SGA positions will be listed on their website. Anderson Ward and Ava Barefoot won the president and vice president election. Other SGA positions, such as the SGA attorney general, secretary, and treasurer will be elected in April of 2024. He asked staff to urge students to apply. SGA has filled 47 seats and has 13 open seats. He thanked the two Brody representatives for applying. He will bring the new attorney general to the next Staff Senate meeting.

Treasurer’s Report

Stephanie Stroud, Staff Senate Treasurer

Treasurer Stephanie Stroud announced that the February 2024 Treasurer’s Report included expenses for additional name tags for new senators and travel for the October Staff Assembly meeting. Staff Senate has received an update from the System Office that travel reimbursements for the July and October 2023 Staff Assembly meetings will be completed soon. Questions can be routed directly to Stephanie Stroud or to staffsenate@ecu.edu.

Committee Updates

Executive Committee

Crystal Hildenbrand, Staff Senate Chair-Elect

Chair-Elect Crystal Hildenbrand announced that the UNC Staff Assembly meeting will be held on March 18-19, 2024, at the UNC System Office in Raleigh. Agenda items for that meeting include updates from the System Office, Human Resources department, a development program, and the Chancellors’ Cup Golf tournament, which will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, in Chapel Hill at the Finley Golf Club. They are looking for teams and will share information closer to the event.

The ECU Board of Trustees will meet on April 11-12, 2024, and staff may join virtually by selecting the link from their website.

By-Laws Committee

Senator John Southworth, Chair of the By-Laws Committee, reported potential changes to the parliamentary position are being discussed. Once the wording is finalized, it will be brought forth for a vote.

Communication and Marketing Committee

Senator Chad Carwein, Chair of the Communication and Marketing Committee, announced the Eco Sustainability Program is hosting a screening of Small Island Big Song on March 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Blackbox Theater at the Main Campus Student Center. The film screening is a preview of the live performance of Small Island Big Song, which is part of the Alexander Series, and that is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, 2024. Tickets may be purchased online. Senator Carwein also provided a sustainability joke in recognition of the film screening.

Senator Carwein provided the reminder that the Marketing and Communications Committee needs at least three weeks of notice for marketing materials since every request has to be created or approved by Creative Services. He also added that he receives a lot of responses when sending mass emails announcements from his personal email address, and stated the process needs to be more streamlined and efficient so that emails can go out directly from staffsenate@ecu.edu.

Senator Carwein urged senators to reach out to businesses for donations for the upcoming Staff Senate Online Auction.

Diversity Committee

Past Chair Aisha Powell, Chair of the Diversity Committee, thanked her committee for their hard work on planning the Third Annual Women Leaders at ECU Panel, which will be held on March 28, 2024. They have partnered with the Women and Gender Office for this event. The theme is advancing opportunities through care and belonging. They have reached capacity for the meeting space and can no longer accept in-person attendees, but those who are interested may attend virtually and will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Past Chair Powell announced several upcoming events in celebration of International Women's Month. The Women and Gender Office is hosting March Empower Hour sessions on March 21 and 28, 2024. The Brody School of Medicine Office of Diversity Affairs is highlighting women on their social media platform for Women's History Month. She urged senators to share names of those who identify as she/her to be featured. The Greenville Recruiting Company and ECU ROTC will be hosting a panel with female leaders of Fort Liberty on March 22, 2024, in support of Women's History Month.

Human Resources Committee

Senator Kristina Page provided the update for the Human Resources Committee. They have ordered awards and are putting together swag bags for the for the Staff Emeritus recipients. Staff were urged to collect additional swag items from their departments to give to these awardees.

Staff Senate will be hosting a volunteer opportunity with Mr. Beast on April 23, 2024, from 1-3 p.m. There are 15 spots available. A representative for Mr. Beast will provide specific details about consent forms and the sign-up process.

Ridgewood Elementary School has requested volunteers to proctor during end of grade testing. They need 8 people on May 24, and 15 people on both May 29 and May 30, 2024. Those who are interested should reach out to the Human Resources Committee. They are hoping to add this volunteer opportunity on Give Pulse so that anyone can sign up.

The HR Committee has discussed possible retirement celebration resolutions and have proposed holding a campus-wide retirement event twice a year where the divisions recognize their retirees.

A meeting was held with Chair Dana Lopez to discuss the SHRA to EHRA transitions and salary ranges, FRIP, and the Employee Engagement Survey, which will be open from March 27 – April 8, 2024. Chair Lopez has asked the HR Committee to plan a Town Hall meeting in April to discuss and ask questions with leaders in Human Resources. They anticipate having a Qualtrics survey as a way to gather questions before the event. A location has not yet been determined. It will be livestreamed, as well.

Discussion: Chair Lopez provided additional context on the HR panel, as this topic was brought up when she met with Associate Vice Chancellor for HR, Kitty Wetherington. The HR panel was offered in the past, and there has been interest in starting this back up. The plan is to hold this event during Staff Appreciation Month, with one on the Health Sciences Campus and another on Main Campus. This would be a panel where everyone is invited and can ask questions that fall under HR. A Qualtrics link will be sent to obtain questions ahead of time in order to have subject matter experts present.

Leadership and Professional Development Committee

Senator Jennifer Jones, Chair of the Leadership and Professional Development Committee, stated the Ballard's Annual Lessons in Leadership (B.A.L.L.) event will be held on April 10, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the ECHI auditorium. Dr. Higginson will present on "Learning to Lead." Refreshments will be provided in the hallway outside of the auditorium at 2:30 p.m. Anyone may attend this event. Attendees do not have to be affiliated with ECU. They have received 54 RSVPs. The deadline to RSVP is April 3, 2024.

The committee is partnering with the HR Committee to provide the Servant Leadership Prep Class on April 25, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in room 125 at the Main Campus Student Center. Advertising for this event will be shared soon and senators were urged to notify their divisions. This event will be internal to staff only.

Membership Committee

Senator Laura Beth Fanning provided the update for the Membership Committee. Staff Senate elections will end on March 15, 2024. Elections were held for Academic Affairs, Administration and Finance, and Student Affairs. Seats will be offered to senators and alternates once the results have been received.

Recognition and Rewards Committee

Treasurer Stephanie Stroud provided the update for the Recognition and Rewards Committee. They are excited for the upcoming Staff Appreciation Month. A calendar of events will be sent soon. An email has been sent seeking nominations for the Outstanding Staff Awards. The winners will be selected during the first week of April and recognized at the awards ceremony at the end of the month.

The RSVP for the staff appreciation meal will be emailed soon. Staff may choose between a meal at one of the dining halls or the cookout at Lake Laupus on Thursday, April 18, 2024. They are looking into ways to

include staff who do not work the day shift, and who normally are unable to take advantage of the staff appreciation meal.

Discussion: Chair Dana Lopez asked if the date for Family Day will be changed due to the ECU Spring Game.

Treasurer Stroud replied that Family Day will remain on the scheduled day in order to avoid soccer games scheduled at the North Rec Complex during other weekends. The Recognition and Rewards Committee did not want the event to potentially be crowded people who are not staff at ECU. She added that a food truck will be at the event along with free Kona Ice, while supplies last. Family Day has been expanded to 3 hours.

Scholarship Committee

Chair-Elect Crystal Hildenbrand provided the update for the Scholarship Committee. Donations are being collected for the Silent Auction which will be held from April 8-14, 2024, during Staff Appreciation Month. Donations can be accepted until April 3, 2024. Staff were reminded to add solicitations and donations to the spreadsheet shared by Senator Michelle Bone in order to keep track of the businesses who have been approached.

Old Business

Dana Lopez, Staff Senate Chair

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Dana Lopez, Staff Senate Chair

Joshua Crockett provided an update that the SGA Town Hall will be held on March 28, 2024, in room 253 at the Main Campus Student Center. He added that SGA purchased approximately 750 scrunchie drink covers as an initiative, and have leftovers if staff would like one of these items.

Dr. Lauren Thorn, the Vice Chair of Staff Senate, stated a group of employees were trained on the Question Persuade, Refer (QPR) training program last fall, which is one of the best-known suicide prevention trainings. She stated those interested in having their office or student organizations trained in QPR, can request training on the Campus Recreation and Wellness webpage. They know there are concerns about mental health and the importance of having these conversations, and are excited to offer this training to campus.

Chair Dana Lopez provided additional information about the Chancellors' Cup Golf Tournament. This event is open to the public. Anyone can sign up and pay a fee as a team. The Chancellor's Team costs \$2,000 and non-Chancellor teams cost between \$1,000 and \$1,500 for a team a four.

In closing, Chair Dana Lopez announced the next Staff Senate meeting will be held on April 11, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the East Carolina Heart Institute (ECHI) Auditorium.



The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Meeting minutes were taken and prepared by Staff Senate Secretary, Christiana Shoopman.

Minutes approved 4/11/2024