



July 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Senators Present: Angela Haynie, Angela Jackson, Ashley Isom, Ashton Hankins, Audreka Peten, Carlos Herrera, Deloise Mowdy, Dierre Littleton, Elizabeth Gayfield, Garth Clayborn, Henry Smiley, Hunter Roberts, Jason Cole, Julia Robison, Kimberly Klotz, Kristin Jetts, Melanie Watson, Michael Hopper, Nadia Eslinger, Natalie Shock, Paul Dielmann, Richard Hammond, Steven Shook, Susan Peterson, Taylor Ingram

Senators Absent: Gunnar Bartlett, Jason Davis, Jennifer Day, Kyanna Smith, Shad Foley, Shelby Fiegel, Tabitha Hasson, Thomas McDaniel

I. Call to Order

- A. President Shook called the Staff Senate to order at 10:03 a.m. on Zoom.

II. Approval of June 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes

- A. The minutes from the June 24, 2020 meeting were reviewed during the Zoom meeting. One edit was made. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Senator Robinson and seconded by Treasurer Herrera.

III. Officer Reports

- A. President, Steven Shook
 - 1. President Shook welcomed new Senators and invited them to introduce themselves.
 - 2. A Board of Trustees meeting will be held on July 23, 2020 at 10:00am via Zoom. The link to attend the meeting will be shared soon.
 - 3. Staff Senate executive staff are working on plans for the annual Staff Senate retreat and awards. Both will likely take place via Zoom, but executive staff will be meeting next week to finalize plans.

4. SGA has passed a resolution in support of removing Governor Benjamin T. Laney's name from Laney-Manion Hall. The resolution can be viewed [here](#).
5. COVID-19 Testing Parameters: Three (3) questions have been developed to determine if an individual on-campus needs to be tested for COVID-19. If individuals have gone against any of these guidelines, they will be asked to be tested. However, individuals can still be tested upon request.
 - a) Are you 6-feet or less from someone else? Or if you were not 6-feet or less away, were you with them for 15 minutes or more? Were they wearing a face covering?
6. Staff Senate Meetings: Senators were asked via email how they would prefer Staff Senate meetings be conducted - in-person, virtually, or a hybrid (alternating between in-person and virtual). Results were split between virtual and hybrid. The Senate will continue to meet virtually on Zoom for July and reevaluate again later after monitoring how other groups on campus are meeting in-person.
7. Spring Picnic Name Change: Dr. Angela Webster with the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion contacted President Shook to ask Staff Senate to consider renaming the Spring Picnic. Concerns have been raised over the origin of the word "picnic" as the current name could make some faculty & staff feel excluded and harmed. ([Article shared by Dr. Webster](#)) This will be discussed further in "New Business."

B. Vice President, Nadia Eslinger

1. Vice President Eslinger welcomed our new senators and announced that all Senate positions are filled.
2. An email will be sent early next week for Senators to identify which committees they are and are not interested in serving on.

C. Treasurer, Carlos Herrera

1. Staff Senate Binders for 2020-21 are ready to be picked up in Brewer-Hegeman. If Senators are unable to pick up their binder in person, please let Treasurer Herrera know and he will try to arrange delivery.
2. Senate budgets were affected by University budget cuts. A full accounting will be provided to the Senate soon.

D. Secretary, Ashton Hankins

1. No report.

E. Parliamentarian/Historian, Elizabeth Gayfield

1. No report.

F. Ex Officio, Kimberly Klotz

1. No report

IV. Senate Committee Report/Highlights

A. Courtesy Committee

1. One courtesy card was requested to be sent.

V. University Committee Reports

A. No reports.

VI. Campus Q&A

A. Vice President Eslinger said that she received a report that Arkansas Higher Education is receiving money back from the state. She is waiting to receive a source for this information, but the question was raised asking what UCA is doing with the money being received back.

B. Senator Roberts asked who on campus directs construction workers where to dig, bulldoze, etc. President Shook said he would contact Larry Lawrence to find out.

VII. Constituent Concerns

A. President Shook: We received a constituent concern regarding how CARES ACT B funds are being spent and how staff can access that information.

1. Response from Diane Newton: Several requests have been submitted for CARES B funds. Most requests pertain to PPE, computers, and webcams. A list exists with information regarding specific requests and approvals. This document changes constantly so sharing the full document would only provide a snapshot in time. However, information included in the document is covered under FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) so information is available upon request. About \$2.7 million of the Cares B funds will be used to reimburse the University for room and board refunds. If staff have a request or idea that would benefit students, a

proposal can be created by working with the department director and submitted for consideration. Regular updates on use of Cares B funds can be made to Staff Senate if needed.

- B. President Shook: There is concern about what the Fall semester will look like for staff after Thanksgiving break now that all courses will go online for the remainder of the semester and return around Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
 - 1. It is expected to be similar to Phases 1 and 2 with a Remote Work from Home form that will be authorized by an employee's supervisor. This could be an adjusted schedule with specified days in the office and/or working remotely. It is important to note that UCA will still need to provide the same services as some students will remain on campus.
- C. President Shook: There have been constituent concerns about an open letter created by a subset of University faculty members, urging the University to move more classes online. It is important to note that this letter was not created by Staff Senate. President Davis and Provost Poulter have received the letter, and the University is working to allow faculty the option to go online/hybrid. Care has to be taken, though, given the new information regarding international students. They can only take 3hrs fully online, or they will not be allowed to stay in the country.
- D. Senator Isom: Received a constituent concern from employees who ride the UCA shuttles from outlying parking lots. They would like more information about the plan for cleaning and social distancing on the shuttles.

VIII. Old Business

- A. No report

IX. New Business

- A. Spring Picnic Name Change
 - 1. Dr. Angela Webster with the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion contacted President Shook to ask us to look at renaming the Spring Picnic. Concerns have been raised over the origin of the word "picnic" as the current name could make some faculty & staff feel excluded and harmed. ([Article shared by Dr. Webster](#))
 - 2. Senate discussed this request. More information and additional options for the new name were requested. Secretary Hankins motioned to table this business until the Senate's next meeting. Senator Jetts seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

X. Good and Welfare

- A. Parliamentarian/Historian Gayfield announced that her husband had received a promotion.
- B. Senator Smiley's son is participating in Virtual Governor's School this month.
- C. Ex Officio Klotz shared that a new Irish restaurant called O'Malley's Grill opened in the old Blackwood's location. The restaurant is owned by Joan Shofner who works in Advancement and her husband.
- D. Senator Hopper shared that the police department has hired a new officer, Stephen Pointer from Panama City, FL.
- E. Vice President Eslinger shared that there is a new seafood restaurant downtown called Krab Kingz. She also shared that her son is working on a short film to be shot in Conway.

XI. Adjournment

- A. Senator Smiley motioned to adjourn, and Senator Shock seconded. Motion carried.