



**November 10, 2021**

## **Staff Senate Meeting Minutes**

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**Senators Present:** Ashley Isom, Audreka Peten, Carlos Herrera, Christy Dade, Jason Cole, Kristin Jetts, Melanie Watson, Nadia Eslinger, Tina Wells, Garth Clayborn, Jennifer Day, Lynetta Morris, Natalie Shock, Angela Jackson, Julia Robison, Alison Taylor, Courtney Bryant, Elizabeth Gayfield, Steven Shook, Jennifer Ruud, Richard Hammond, Veneta Fricks, Kimberly Klotz, Thomas McDaniel, Angela Polk, Jason Davis, Hunter Roberts

**Senators Absent:** Shad Foley, Taylor Ingram, Kyana Smith

### **I. Call to Order**

- A. President Eslinger called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

### **II. Approval of October 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

- A. The minutes from the October 27, 2021 meeting were reviewed via email and approved electronically.

### **III. Guest Speakers**

- A. None

### **IV. Officer Reports**

- A. President, Nadia Eslinger
  1. President's Report - After feedback from students and athletes, SGA did not pass a resolution to unite all athletic teams under the name "Bears." Final decisions regarding a potential name change in the future will be made by President Davis and Athletic Director Brad Teague.
  2. Feedback from last month's first monthly Google Workspace Training is that staff found the Gmail training helpful. More monthly training sessions to come. You can register for upcoming trainings [here](#).
  3. COVID update - hopefully moving to yellow status soon if cases in Faulkner County decline. UCA is prepared when/if that happens.
  4. Faculty/Staff Senate Holiday Reception on Tuesday, November 30th at 5:30 pm at President's House. Festive attire encouraged.

5. December 6 is the next No Meeting Monday. We encourage you to block off your calendars on that day so you can get caught up on work.
6. President Eslinger spoke with Chief of Staff Amy Whitehead and Britni Elder regarding UCA's plan to celebrate/observe Juneteenth. We are waiting on direction from the Governor. Juneteenth is not a legal holiday in Arkansas. Currently it is listed as a "memorial holiday." More information will be shared as it is received.

B. Vice-President, Carlos Herrera

1. Cutoff date to earn Holiday time for 2021 is December 22, 2021

C. Treasurer, Kristin Jetts

1. Stickers for Staff Senate are ready to be picked up. Notepads and pens are still in production and should be ready soon.

D. Secretary, Garth Clayborn

1. No Report

E. Parliamentarian/Historian, Melanie Straw-Watson

1. No Report

F. Ex Officio, Steven Shook

1. No Report

## **v. Senate Committee Report/Highlights**

A. Courtesy Committee: One card was sent out two weeks ago. Request for four cards to be sent out this week.

B. Winter Feast Committee:

1. Updated Donation Policy. Gift Cards can not be purchased. Certificates with specific cash value cannot be donated. Prizes with more than \$75 value for any individual item cannot be given.
2. Every Senator is being asked to donate or procure at least two door prizes.
3. Winter Feast tickets are on sale now for \$8! Buy your tickets [here!](#) November 24 is the last date to purchase tickets.

C. Appointments Committee: Met to discuss Senators with 5 or more absences and how to handle attendance. Decided to seek further clarity for those senators. Discussed the possibility of adding more senators to the Non-Classified roles but decided to keep the Staff Senate at 30 members for now.

D. Basketball Committee: Zoom meeting today right after the Staff Senate meeting. Volunteers still needed for upcoming [Basketball games.](#)

E. Angel Bear Committee: Food Pantry will not be able to sponsor hams/turkeys in food boxes this year. We are asking for \$500 from Angel Bear funds to supplement the cost of food boxes.

1. We have 44 Angels and 3 more applicants. About half as many as we normally receive.

## **VI. University Committee Reports**

A. Upcoming Honorary Degree Committee Meeting. Difficult decision on how to decide who should receive honorary degrees.

## **VII. Campus Q&A**

A. None

## **VIII. Constituent Concerns**

A. Email from constituent regarding Self-Defense Courses offered by UCA PD. Looking into the possibility of resuming those courses in the future.

## **IX. Old Business**

A. None

## **X. New Business**

A. Staff Senate is co-sponsoring Holiday Game Night on December 13 from 6-8 pm for students that cannot go home on Holiday Break. Encouraging faculty and staff to attend. Asking for each department to donate \$300 for the holiday meal.

1. Senator Herrera motioned to allocate \$300. Senator Isom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Next meeting is scheduled the day before Thanksgiving when many staff are on vacation. Possibility of cancelling that meeting since it is the day before Thanksgiving.

1. Senator Roberts motioned to cancel the next meeting. Senator Ruud seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Food Boxes from Food Pantry

1. Senator Isom motioned to donate \$500 from Angel Bear fund to provide meats/candies in Food boxes provided to Angel Bear families. Senator Herrera seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **XI. Good and Welfare**

A. Point of Clarification from Tracie Spivey: In the last meeting it was stated that Conway ArtsFest is hosting monthly Art Walks. It is actually the Creative Institute of Central Arkansas who is hosting the events. CAFTA does help support the Art Walks but they are not the host.

B. Veneta Fricks birthday today. Happy Birthday!

- C. Ms. Essence Pageant coming up. Free event. Please come and show your support.
- D. Volunteers for Commencement, Basketball, and Football still needed. Last Football game is this Saturday.
- E. Men's Soccer Team playing in the ASUN Championship. Congratulations!
- F. Open Enrollment for employee benefits closes on Friday.

## **XII. Adjournment**

- A. Senator Roberson motioned to adjourn. Senator Isom seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.