

Minutes

UWF Staff Senate

Meeting

via Google Meet

University of West Florida

March 12, 2024

The meeting of the UWF Staff Senate was called to order at 1:30 pm by Staff Senate Senator at Large Sierra Ebert.

Attendance was taken by online participants on Google Meet. The following Senators were present:

Patricia Barlow, Tori Bennett, Sierra Ebert, Marisa Elmore, Zachary Farrington; Gabriel Esmurdoc, Stephanie Fenner, Alycia Grieco, Brett Haskell, Miriam Hoover, Brooke Karas, Larry King, Jenny Makselan, Nicole McDonald, Angie Quenan, Heather Seitz, Kayla Stanley, Monti Stone, Sandra Taylor, Blythe Webster, Barbara Wells.

Proxy Attendance: N/A.

Absent: Ethan Henley.

Guests: Dr. Martha Saunders – University President; Stephanie Petersen – Staff LEAD.

## **Administrative Reports**

### **1. Executive Report – Dr. Saunders.**

- Legislature Updates (pending approval from the Governor):
  - i. Funding received for the second phase of the critical infrastructure satellite utilities plant.
  - ii. Funding also received to expand the Educational Research Center for Child Development (Childcare Center) to provide more opportunities for our employees to have spaces for their children.
  - iii. Funding received for the second part of the Science and Engineering research wing in building 4.
  - iv. Funding was also received to do a feasibility study for a developmental lab school.
  - v. Additional funding received for the undergraduate Civil Engineering program.
  - vi. Water quality research center – new center to set up standing testing stations both in shore and offshore of our region to help test our water quality.
  - vii. Not as many policy changes this year as compared to last year. One bill was passed to protect our University license plate.

## **2. Approval of Minutes and Treasury Report**

Motion to approve February Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Sandra Taylor.

Seconded by: Tori Bennett.

Passed unanimously.

## **3. Supervisor of Elections**

- N/A

## **4. Committee Reports**

- ERAP – Zachary Farrington – things are picking up for ERAP; RSVP was sent out; program and script have been finalized; invite will be sent out soon for help the day of the event.

## **5. New Business**

- Stephanie Petersen shared information about the Staff LEAD Project – Unveiling the Universe: A Solar Eclipse Viewing Featuring Stargo: Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00pm. The LEAD project this year in collaboration with the Department of Physics and Hal Marcus College of Science and Engineering helped purchase a telescope that will be unveiled at this event. Solar eclipse protective eye glasses, light refreshments and opportunities to view the eclipse utilizing Stargo will be provided.

## **6. Old Business**

- Reminder the April Staff Senate meeting will be held in-person on the main campus. A virtual option will still be available.

## **7. Open Forum**

- Sierra Ebert – Day of Giving is coming up on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Founders Week will be April 15<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Quenan – Secretary

**Staff Senate Executive Board**

President- Ethan Henley

Vice President – Zachary Farrington  
Supervisor of Elections- Sandra Taylor  
Secretary- Angie Quenan  
Treasurer- Brooke Karas  
Senator at Large- Sierra Ebert  
Communications- Marisa Elmore