

Call to Order

Staff Council President Brandon McMillin called the meeting to order at 3:34pm on Wednesday, September 16, 2020; via Zoom; quorum was present.

Members Present

Amelia Wright, Angel Lomeli, Brandon McMillin, Casey Park, Deserie Donae, Gabby Pelayo, Harrel Dashazier, Kailyn Doyle, Kali Rothrock, Kat Goldenberg, Mary Watson, Molly Pucillo, Morgan McBroom, Nancy Olson, Sasha Wallace, Sulaina Banks, Warren Hardison

Members Absent

None

Guests

Rob Keever, Arlene Wynn, Leo Canez, Michelle Collins, Krista Paddock, Jessica Welch

Staff Senate Report

Staff Senator Rob Keever introduced himself as the third year Staff Senator, Chair of the University Policies Committee, and CARE Coordinator in the Dean of Students Office. He thanked the Council for electing Kailyn Doyle as Staff Senator after Councilor Gradine stepped away from their role. Senator Keever reported that Senator Doyle will serve as the Staff representative on the Senate Executive Committee. Arlene Wynne is the newest Senator, and is serving on the URPC.

Senator Keever reported that he and his fellow staff senators have been communicating with Staff Council leadership and the Senate Labor Council representative about increased workloads that many staff are facing in the wake of the Early Exit Program, department reorganizations, and budget cuts in general, without any guarantees for Reclassifications, In range progressions, or compensation of any kind. This issue was brought to Vice President Sherie Gordon's attention at the previous Senate Executive Committee meeting, and they will be working with leadership in dept and HR. She's going to think on it more and make sure she figures out an appropriate way to mitigate this, which may include her coming to a future Staff Council meeting.

Senator Keever reminded staff council of the opportunity to speak about concerns during the Open Forum of the Senate, which lasts from 3:15-3:30 PM during every Senate meeting.

Staff Council Announcements

Councilor Lomeli reported she was excited to have heard her boss give a shout-out to Green and Gold Fridays in her Sponsored Programs Foundation staff meeting.

Councilor Park reminded everyone to let students know to register to vote.

Councilor Banks reported that the Campus Tradition Committee and the Institutional Planning Committee have planned virtual homecoming week from October 5-9; the celebration will include a trash pick up competition during the week, a virtual door decorating contest, and a car parade, among other events and fun opportunities.

Councilor Doyle reported National Transfer Student Week will be held for the first time at HSU from Oct 19-23, 2020. She noted the 2020/2021 incoming class at HSU is something like 65% transfer students, which has helped mitigate low enrollment numbers in the wake of COVID-19

Councilor Olson announced that she and Councilor Wallace offer meditation classes at noon on Fridays, and that she is offering a class called "Personal Resilience in an Uncertain World."

Staff Council Officer Reports

President

- President McMillin reported he has been meeting with Labor Union and Senate representatives to discuss how to build a better relationship between each other in order to address staff concerns, such as the biggest concern communicated, increased workload. He reported they sent an email informing staff of the Senate Open Forum and ways to connect with their union representatives. He reported they are hoping to mimic the Great Colleges to Work For survey, but from just the staff perspective, with the idea to send the results to the Division Vice Presidents. President McMillin reported he and Vice President Pelayo will be meeting with President Jackson and hopefully with VP Gordon as well, after Senator Keever has met with her. He reported his main focus is trying to come up with communication methods that will benefit all staff on campus including our leadership team, by way of connections between auxiliary employees and union represented employees.
- Michelle Collins noted that President Jackson is eager to hear from staff members if they have innovative ideas to help with the workload shift.

Vice President

- Vice President Pelayo thanked the SC for the opportunity to serve as Vice President and encouraged folks to email her if they have questions or ideas.

Treasurer

- Haven't spent money but we are wondering if we should plan on having the money for in person events.

Secretary

- Secretary Watson reported she will continue working on updates to the website as she has time.

Staff Council Standing Committees Reports:

Governance

President McMillin reported that Kailyn Doyle was elected to the Senate.

Equity Working Group

Councilor Casazza has stepped down, and Councilor Park reported she is willing to take this committee on fully.

Recruitment Committee

Vice President Pelayo reported that SPF Grant Analyst Leslie Rodelandier took over the Staff Council Instagram account, and encouraged folks to sign up to take over the account.

Service Projects Committee

Councilor Banks reported the door decorating contest theme will be Green and Gold this year, and that she has been working with HumTrails, which is a trail restoration project for the county, to find a day for staff to volunteer to help clean up and restore a trail. The logistics for safety allow for staggered groups of ten every hour or so, and for social distancing. She reported we could work on the Hammond Trail or on one of the trails in the Arcata Community Forest, and noted it would be a good way for Staff Council to show their support for the communities in which we live. She reported another idea is copied from the Enrollment Management fun event, which would be a big zoom meeting where folks could show off their favorite things or babies (both furry and human).

Michelle Collins reported that welcome bags can be picked up in the cashier's office.

Councilor Watson and Councilor Park will work on getting a written report template to the Council for further use; Councilor Doyle spoke in favor of the idea to use written reports.

Action Item: Staff Council Executive Officer and Committee Chair Elections

Council vote to approve the slate of Executive Officer and Committee Chair Elections passed via google form without dissent.

Action Item: Disposal of the Promote Gender Equity & Refine the Staff Recognition Award Working Group (PGE&SRA)

Council vote to dispose of the PGE&SRA passed without dissent.

M/S (Watson/Park) motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm