

University Staff Senate Minutes

January 20, 2022, 11:00-1:00 p.m.

Raynor Library, Beaumier Suite C and Teams

Present

Via Teams: Laura Abing, Lauren Accola, Jack Bartelt, Chris Bartolone, Bernardo Borunda, Coreen Bukowski, Wendy Butler, Maria Cooper, Robin Cork, Sherrie Dorff, Cliona Draper, Melissa Econom, Christine Fleming, Jyoti Gandha, Latrice Harris-Collins, Maggie Klatt, Sherri Lex, Laura Mercado Martin, Lori Montezon, Karen Nest, Karen Ortiz, Kim Poehlman, Yvonne, Printz, Ritu Sachdev, Nicolle Skoien, Carol Trecek, Rae-Ann Vanek, Elizabeth Voltner, Chad Wheeler

Chair Carol Trecek began the meeting at 11:01 am.

Lori Montezon led the reflection.

Special business

Guest speakers from University Advancement: Brian Dorrington, Assistant Vice President of Advancement Communication, and Stacy Mitz, Senior Associate Vice President.

University Advancement helps align donor passions with opportunities at Marquette University. Brian and Stacy shared updates related to gifts and campaign progress so far.

How can staff assist with University's Advancement's goals?

- Align your personal philanthropy with a cause you are passionate about on campus (example: [the Backpack program](#)).
- Get involved with established programming:
 - National Marquette Day: February 26, 2022
 - Give Marquette Day: March 8, 2022
 - Alumni Reunion: June 3-5, 2022
 - Alumni National Awards: June 2-3, 2022
- If you have ideas or would like to be involved, contact [Laura Abing](#).

Q&A

- How can departments connect more consistently with alumni or potential donors?
 - Work with your development directors: each has a portfolio and is actively working with potential donors. The Communication team is always creating engagement and looking for ways to share stories.
- There is a concern that Give Marquette Day is asking employees to donate financially. How can we help with messaging?
 - University Staff Senate can help communicate that there are other ways to contribute through advocacy or volunteering.

Regular Business

Secretary's Request:

Minutes from December were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

No report

Vice Chair's Report:

- Work environment:
 - Staff had asked about scheduling issues related to semester's delayed start. If you have questions related to your schedule and duties, work with your supervisor.
 - Marquette University is still following contact tracing related to COVID-19. If you are teaching, keep a seating chart. Students who test positive should report to the Medical Clinic and share their status with the instructor.
- Innovation Council grant: the group has received feedback and is making edits. This will be submitted in March.

Chair's Report:

- University Leadership Council: Marquette University is instituting new online diversity, equity and inclusion program. Beginning 2/1/22, you will receive an email from Safe Colleges with further details and instructions on completion.
- Reminder: COVID vaccine boosters are required; [please upload your information](#).
- Follow up to December meeting with Joel Pogodzinski: Carol sent questions and concerns that arose and will have a follow up conversation.
- Meeting with Dr. Lovell: Carol brought up similar concerns as those from the meeting in December (lack of Staff Senate representation on Finance Committee, ongoing inflation and compensation issues, inability to attend campus events because of schedule requirements due to role). Always feel free to reach out to Carol or the USS mailbox for any and all concerns to discuss. These will always be kept confidential.

Subcommittees:

Elections and Nominations:

No update

By-Laws:

No update

Communication:

No update

Service:

- Holiday Giving Tree: Thanks to all who participated in partnership with the Childcare Center. The tree was refilled six times with the number of donations.
- United Way: Staff can continue to support through the Community Campaign.
- Backpack Program: There are plans for a food drive this spring to include snacks, personal hygiene products and PPE.
- Give Marquette Day: Molly Eldridge and Laura Abing will draft communication to send to all staff and emphasize non-financial ways to support.

Staff Outreach:

No update

Other Business:

Reminder that the [Department of Health & Human Services is offering free COVID tests.](#)

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.