

## **Staff Senate Minutes**

**September 8, 2021**

**Members Present:** Amber Brownlee, Bobbie lee, Carrie Burt, Kenneth Angell, Willica Morgan, Victoria Mirocke, Chanda Hooten, Jarod Bray, Shalonda McCoy, Kelci Martinez, Ashlee Dixon, and Martha Bryant

**Members Absent:** Johnny Campbell, Jennifer Hollbrook, Brittani Curtis, Madalyn Coffman, Brenda Driggers, Mackenzie Echols, Ashtyn Price, David Martinez, Alan Hall, and Angie Bradshaw

**Guests:** Brian George, Christopher Golston, Lisa Carpenter, Elizabeth Martin, John Higginbotham, Dr. Welch, Lisa Buck, Crystal Campbell, Kelly Stewart, Tiffany Rogers, Tina Hall, Alex Arce, Kristi Glass, Karen Herrin, and Loretta Brantley

Meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Bobbie Lee, Staff Senate President

The August minutes were approved.

**Guest Speaker:                    Dr. Welch**

Dr Welch addressed Dr. Borsig's resignation, saying it is due to illness and that he will continue to work remotely while we look for a permanent chancellor. He further stated that Fall and Spring searches are similar in nature, so he anticipates a strong pool of applicants. With the exception of changes made due to employment status, the search committee consists of the same members as before. He expects that search will take approximately 6 weeks, with the best applicants submitting their resume's toward the end. There will be an online feedback option for the faculty and staff to express their opinions. The board will not vote to select the Chancellor, as the advisory committee will make a recommendation. The board, however, would ratify it. He believes that we will attract quality candidates because of the challenges that many institutions are facing. He further stated that no arbitrary dates have been set for the search to end. This will be determined based on the quality of applicants. So far, nineteen or twenty applicants.

Lorretta Brantley -asked for clarification of ASU benefits.

Dr Welch said that HSU has a self-insured benefits plan that has experienced significant increases over the last few years. For example, HSU's insurance increased by 16% this year. He encouraged HSU to consider the long-term effects of this trend. ASU's insurance does not require referrals. Dr. Welch expressed that he appreciates the hard work that faculty and staff have done to stabilize the university.

Thirteen percent of our budget was spent on scholarships, which was not sustainable for the long term. This issue had to be addressed for the wellbeing of the university.

**Guest Speaker: Tina Hall**

Tina demonstrated to access the brand tool kit that includes logo, business cards, and other materials.

**President's Report:**

No report

**Treasurer's Report**

No report

**Announcements**

The next Staff Senate meeting will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.