

Staff Senate

<http://www.staffsenate.vt.edu>

July 18, 2019
Noon – 1:00pm
2470 North End Center

MINUTES

Attendees: *Judy Alford, LaTawyna Burlison, Angel Carter, Velva Groover, Amy Ingram, Katrina Loan, Zerita Montgomery, Brandy Morse, Sarah Owen, Tasia Persson, Jennifer Pike, Jonathon Poff, Amber Robinson, Robert Sebek, Tamarah Smith, Jamie Stein, Laura Steinberg, Michele Strauss, Judy Taylor, Beverly Williams, Serena Young*

Zoom Attendees: *Wayne Crotto, Sheree Montgomery, MaDonna Overstreet, Hannah Parks, Erika Perdue, Kimberly Ridpath, Amanda Villar, Sarah Woodward*

Excused: *Lisa Bishop, Sue Ellen Crocker, Pat Donovan, Joseph Goodman, Bruce Harper, Carolyn Hopkins, Dani McNeil, Dennie Munson, Steve Nagle*

Call to order by Tamarah Smith at 12:05pm

The agenda was sent out electronically with no additions, the agenda was approved at the meeting.

Attendance sheet for check-in was available near room entrance.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of June 2019 minutes was done at the meeting.

Welcome new Officers and Senators by Ms. Smith

- Serena Young, Vice President
- Brandy Morse, Secretary/Treasurer
- Angel Carter, Parliamentarian
- James D. McComas Staff Leadership Seminar Chair, Amy Ingram, Chair Elect, Katrina Loan
- Communications Chair Bruce Harper, Chair Elect Angel Carter
- Elections and Nominations Chair, Judy Taylor, Chair-Elect Tasia Persson
- Polices and Issue Chair, Judy Alford, Chair Elect LaTawyna Burlison

Buzz Word: Ut Prosim - Ms. Smith

- Working in higher education, there are a tremendous amount of Buzzwords that we hear quite a bit

- You may just know the word and not really the meaning or how it can pertain to us
- We will be having a five-minute Buzz Word presentation at each meeting to help education all of us
- In searching the internet for the word: Here is what it says, Ut prosim is a latin and means – that I may serve and interesting enough on this website it says “Motto of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. <https://glosbe.com/la/en/ut%20prosim>
- We take it so seriously at our university that we have an Ut Prosim Society. On their website they say, its members epitomize the values inherent in that motto. Thorough engagement and extraordinary generosity, they are leaders in the community of philanthropy that sustains all areas of the university.
- In the June 20, 2016 issue of the Collegiate Times (http://www.collegiatetimes.com/opinion/ut-prosim-living-out-our-motto/article_e87c5c46-3756-11e6-a754-27ef32411bd1.html), Carson Barlett, former student says this; it is not until you interact with Virginia Tech community members that you realize that it means so much more... It is not just about helping others when you can. It is about dedicating everything you have to the betterment of others.
- Charitable Activities - We would like us to partake in some opportunities of service this year together. Many of us here enjoy volunteer work and helping others, let’s come up with a list of activities that would be great services for us to support this year
 1. Lyric
 2. English Meadows to help any way possible
 3. Man of Ministries
 4. Donations
 5. Social Services can assign us a family to shop for at Christmas
 6. Christmas Store
 7. Working at a shelter (Montgomery County or Pulaski)
 8. Big Event
 9. Habitat for Humanity
 10. Food Pantries
 11. Micah’s Backpack
 12. YMCA – organizing items or helping price & tag items
 13. Campus Kitchens
 14. Hahn Horticulture Garden
 15. Mountain View Humane Society – donations
- We will come up with a couple of dates and at our August meeting, we will have sign up sheets. Even if we just have a few people for each opportunity, it is such a great way to give back and to get to know one another. Tamarah will pick someone to lead up each item.

Responsibilities of Staff Senators: Ms. Young

- Show up to meeting and participate
- Make informed decisions,
- Vote on matters brought before the Staff Senate,
- Serve on at least one standing committee, and
- Serve on University Council, Commissions, Advisory Councils and Committees when appointed.
- Now for the standing committees, this is the 1st meeting of the year where all senators and officers need to change what committee they will be involved in. It is mandatory that all senators be on at least one of our standing committees. The standing committees are:
 - Communications
 - Policies and Issues
 - Elections and Nominations
 - James D. McComas Staff Leadership Committee
- Currently we do have two ad hoc committees that you could also choose to be a part of
 - Child Care
 - Strategic Planning
- How do we currently communicate with our staff associations to get the word out about Staff Senate and get others to come?
 - Get the word out by asking others to come to meetings
 - Encourage people to be alternates
 - Send out emails to a listserv
 - SharePoint
 - Outreach at Health & Wellness Fair and Staff Appreciation day

Break Out into Committees

Next meeting: August 15, 2019 - 2470 North End Center – Guest Speaker, Ellen Plummer to speak on Governance.

Adjournment at 12:32pm

Respectfully submitted:
Brandy Morse