

ACU Staff Senate Meeting
Thursday, September 5, 2024
9:00a.m. - 10:00a.m.

Dean's Conference Room, College of Biblical Studies

Present: Lindsey Griffis, Hollye Jaklewicz, Amanda Pittman, Titus Vesel, Justin Smith, Micah Heatwole, Larry Henderson, Lyndsey Steffek, Arthur Brandt, Katrina Pelleran, Makayla Kerrigan, Anne Hocking, Michael David, Penny Ruot, Lucy Dawson, Todd Mullins, Amber Brokaw.

Call to order at 9:05 by Lindsey. Note cards were disbursed to senators encouraging all to write a note of encouragement to a colleague.

SLT Update by Lindsey:

Lindsey was invited to the SLT meeting to represent the ACU staff. She was welcomed to share updates and concerns with the group.

Breakfast with Schubert:

The Fall Staff Breakfasts have been very popular. All dates have been at capacity. The remaining semester dates (10/3, 11/26) are full with waitlists. Those able to attend have enjoyed the honest conversation and intimate setting.

Title IX:

Updates will be coming to ACU's policy. Currently ACU is operating under the 2020 laws.

Benefits Meeting:

Arthur stated that the benefits committee hopes to have updates for the October meeting.

Mobile ID:

Titus and Arthur - ACU is moving away from physical ID cards to mobile phone access. So far the new system has been great for students. The Bean has experienced a smooth transition. At this time patrons can use either their ACU ID card or phone. If you prefer using your ID badge, Wildcat Central can issue you an updated one.

ECampus Update: ACU rolled out a new book program where students can receive all books in one location and have them by the first day of class. Unfortunately this didn't go as smoothly as anticipated. To date, there are 115 students that have not yet received their books. A few classes were flagged due to miscommunication regarding

lab coat selections. SLT would like to hear about issues students have experienced. Please communicate to Lindsey any significant issues your students may have experienced. It is anticipated that this program will be reviewed in the near future.

Lindsey will be meeting with President Schubert on October 4th. Please contact her if you have any items that she might communicate on behalf of the Staff.

Committee Updates

Benefits and Advocacy: Amber Brokaw - Changes to TPA (Third Party Administrator). Health Comp was the new TPA for ACU in 2024. Employees experienced significant delays and issues with the new TPA. HR had daily meetings to solve issues. A group was formed to review possible changes in the TPA. To date it is thought that the process has been narrowed to two vendors for consideration. Arthur will update the Senate at the October meeting regarding this process.

Communications: Todd Mullins, chair - Thanks to all for updating your headshot. More than 300 people participated. If you didn't get a new headshot, but have a current one, please send Todd your current one. It can be photoshopped with updates. A new digital asset called Canto will launch in October.

Service: Larry Henderson - They have reached out to the Bible department and others about service opportunities. Additional updates will be shared at the next meeting.

Development and Recognition: Lyndsey Steffek and Anne Hocking co-chairs. Lyndsey - Currently HR recognizes employees at each 5-year marker. Dr. Schubert sends a letter or note of recognition and HR adds a small monetary gift to the employee's pay.

It was suggested that the Staff Senate recognize employees at the one and three year anniversaries. Possible suggestions include: year one, a letter of appreciation to the employee. Year three a coaster recognition of service created in the Maker Lab. Coasters could be laser cut in mass and possibly made with scrap materials to ease costs. Micah Heatwole recommended a file be created and saved for which Staff Senators could use during their Maker Lab appointment to cut, print the coasters. Lyndsey will have more information at the next meeting as David Guerra will be providing data regarding one and three year anniversary numbers so we better understand the size of each group.

Anne - Updated Senators on the CompassPro Proposal for Staff Engagement & Incentivization, Development & Recognition anticipated roll out in October. This project is similar to the student system. Staff will be able to earn points as they engage in

campus activities. Current badge possibilities are: Silver Award, Community Involvement, Northstar Award, Community on the Hill and Fall '24 Reading Group Participant. The anticipated begin date for this proposal is the week of Homecoming.

Anne is also looking to partner with local Abilene businesses. Please let her know if you are aware of any ACU offices or local community businesses that might be willing to partner and offer prizes. Prizes will be awarded when badges are earned. Each badge will have a bank of items to choose from.

ACU Today Cover Story- Todd Mullins - The next issue of ACU Today will spotlight Nine ACU staff members. Dr. Schubert will present each of them a copy of their article framed for display. This will be a surprise and hopes to be scheduled in the next week or two. Todd will send an email encouraging all of us to attend one or all of these events to celebrate these awesome, dedicated staff members.

Zoom Meeting Options- Conversation regarding Zoom meeting options and if we would like to offer the option for Staff Senate Meetings. This was an option during Covid. It was decided that at this time, the Staff Senate meeting room is not conducive for Zoom meetings. Therefore, meeting notes will be available to update senators unable to attend.

Open Discussion:

Lindsey Griffis - Staff Chapel was well received last spring. Planning is beginning for a fall staff chapel. December 16th, Monday following Commencement, has currently been set as a tentative date. This date will be reviewed at the October meeting. Please brainstorm about people who might be a good speaker for chapel.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting - October 3, 2024

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