

ACU Staff Senate Meeting
Thursday, April 3, 2025
9:00a.m. - 10:00a.m.
Dean's Conference Room, College of Biblical Studies

Senators: Hollye Jaklewicz, Titus Vesel, Lyndsey Steffek, Arthur Brandt, Katrina Pelleran, Makayla Kerrigan, Penny Ruot, Lucy Dawson, Laura Dickson, Amber Brokaw, Rachael Morales, Micah Heatwole, Anne Hocking, Todd Mullins, Heather Wyatt, Justin Smith, Larry Henderson,

Welcome: Call to order and prayer by Anne Hocking

March Minutes: The March minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Makayla Kerrigan shared the FY25 Staff senate budget status in this link.

[FY25 Staff Senate Budget](#)

To date, no information has been received regarding the proposed Staff Senate FY26 budget request. Katerina Pelleran will check on the status of the FY26 request.

Old Business:

1 - In planning for the May 13th Staff Chapel it was thought a panel of previous year's staff award winners, listed below, would be an interesting, engaging conversation. Ann Varner was contacted and agreed to participate in a panel. Makayla will contact those highlighted to gauge their willingness.

Panel questions could center around a person's purpose and ministry while working at ACU.

Past Recipients:

- a. [2024 - Scott Warren - Makayla](#)
- b. 2023 - Geoff Klafter
- c. [2022 - Ryan Bowman - Makayla](#)
- d. 2021 - Larry Henderson
- e. 2020 - Lowell Johnston
- f. 2019 - Jama Cadle
- g. [2018 - Susan Gore - Makayla](#)
- h. 2017 - Jimmy Ellison
- i. [2016 - Susan Hardcastle - Makayla](#)
- j. 2015 - Carol Bailey
- k. 2014 - Kerri Hart

- l. 2013 - Brad Bennett
- m. 2012 - Barbara Wilson
- n. 2011 - Mark Lewis - Makayla
- o. 2010 - Danelle Brand
- p. 2009 - Rita Harrell
- q. 2008 - Joyce Voss

Laura Dickson volunteered to play the piano and assemble two to three additional people for a little less than 10-minutes of worship, leaving a couple of minutes for announcements and then 20-ish minutes for the panel discussion.

Rachael Morales will add the chapel date to the newsletter and schedule a calendar invitation for all staff that can be added to their Google calendar.

Anne Hocking will be the MC.

--A future suggestion for staff chapel was made, to possibly have departments share about their staff, who they are, what they do, how they interact with students.

New Business:

1 - How to spend the remaining \$352.19 of our budget.

The floor was open for suggestions on how to spend the remaining budget. The following were settled on in order of priority:

1. Thank you cards for Development & Recognition's efforts
2. Awards for CompassPro; including one to be given away to attendees who check in at the Staff Senate chapel in May.

2 - Committee updates:

- a. **Benefits & Advocacy:** Amber reported - Beginning April 1, 2025 GLP-1 medications, i.e. Ozempic, etc. will no longer be approved for weight loss. The intention of these drugs within ACU's prescription plan is for use as a non-insulin medicine. An update has been communicated to employees.
- b. **Communications:** Rachael - Communication will go out Monday for people to vote for FY26 staff senators.
- c. **Development & Recognition:** Anne - Proposed a standard time frame for CompassPro to begin annually on Aug. 1st and conclude May 31st. She's also added additional items such as the President's Circle Dinner, retirement celebrations, recitals, etc., giving more options.

Rachael will add staff nominations and staff chapel to the HR Newsletter calendar.

Lindsey Steffek will begin the process of ordering more acknowledgement cards for the FY26 budget year. Canva Pro thank you cards will be coming out soon and could provide another less expensive option.

- d. Nominations & Elections:** Anne - updated that six people self-elected and eight people have accepted nominations. The deadline is Friday. Staff will vote for ten people. Extra alternates will be chosen to replace those people who may move on prior to the end of their term.
- e. Service:** Larry, suggested a couple of ideas for service opportunities. He will send us an update with links and have them added to the HR Newsletter.

3 - Staff Senate Celebration Lunch - The President's Office has offered to take the staff senate for lunch. Anne will send a Doodle for all to respond.

4 - Robert's Rules of Order - Anne requested permission to purchase the Robert's Rules of Order book at an approximate cost of \$10-12. Arthur made the motion, seconded by Lucy, Motion Approved by all.

5 - Staff Senate Replacements & Re-commitments - Anne confirmed all first year staff senators will be returning (besides Arthur, who'd already given his notice).

Floor was open for other agenda items. None were spoken.

Meeting adjourned.

-psr