

ACU Staff Senate Meeting
Thursday, January 8, 2026
9:00a.m. - 10:00a.m.
Dean's Conference Room, College of Biblical Studies

Senators: Lauren Blasingame, Amber Brokaw, Ola Mae Bulkley, James Choi, Alexis Faulks, Micah Heatwole, Larry Henderson, Anne Hocking, Lisa Jones, Makayla Kerrigan, Jarrod King, Theasa Lefevre, Kristen Richardson, ~~Thomas Russell~~, Chris Smith, Amanda Spell, Lyndsey Steffek, Katrina Simpson-Pelleran, Anthony Egbo, ~~Laura Dickson~~, ~~Lindsey Griffis~~.

Welcome: Call to order by Anne Hocking

SLT Breakfast Debrief

- How can we be more pastoral to students/other staff?

Who can we shout out? Maybe HR for their work on Workday, encourage those struggling with the transition to listen to BJ's chapel talk. (more details under Benefits committee)

(skipping the quotes for today)

Previous Minutes: The Previous minutes were approved

Treasurer/Budget Report: Katrina is here. By end of last month, 12/31, \$9500.

Committee updates:

a. Benefits & Advocacy:

SEMESTER GOAL:

- i. Has not met, been on hold because of Workday
- ii. Shared Folder to Add Training/FAQ Items to.
- iii. How to celebrate HR/Finance/others for the Workday transition
 1. Potentially on Valentine's day? Donuts? Basket of goodies?

b. Communications:

SEMESTER GOAL:

- Meet soon.
- Monthly newsletter
 - Staff of the Month/ Interesting Fact about Campus
 - Micah updated photos on staff senate blog/website

c. Development & Recognition:

SEMESTER GOAL:

- i. CompassPro

Winners: Veronica Summers, Payton Herring, Tiffany Wildman (new user), Claire Ferrell Rawlins (leaderboard)

Staff working toward badge: 159

Engaged in December: 106 people, 139 activities completed

December Leaderboard:

1. Dawson, Lucy - 66.67%
2. Ferrell Rawlins, Claire - 66.67%
3. Deeg, Brittany - 58.33%
4. Hocking, Anne - 58.33%
5. Thomas, Jamie - 58.33%
6. Boyles, Lauren - 52.78%
7. Hemphill, Ashley - 52.78%
8. Snyder, Lindsay - 52.78%
9. Summers, Veronica - 50.00%
10. Smith, Jonathan - 44.44%

1. WILL WE GIVE MORE \$ TOWARD SUITABLE USE?
 - a. We'll address this question next time.
- ii. SHOUTS & next steps
- ~~iii. Cards to write (?)~~
- iv. Ruthless Elimination of Hurry Spring Offering
- v. Training/Development Form Submissions (CAT & Tyson)
 1. Tyson's - Maximize learning on LinkedIn Learning
- vi.

d. Nominations & Elections:

SEMESTER GOAL:

- Lyndsey Steffek, Alexis Faulks, and Amanda Spell.
- By February, start getting these ballots/communications out.

e. Service:

SEMESTER GOAL:

- We have been more reactive in the past, but Anthony has helped in that regard with Athletics.
 - Can we do something promoting basketball? Staff Senate helping in a game.
 - Need to know how many are needed/when we are needed. Anthony can get back to us.
 - Double-check with Compliance Office.
 - Anthony: To say thank you to Staff Senate, have a Staff Senate Day at a basketball game, using a hospitality room. In the future, maybe baseball.

- Could we rename this committee to broaden its perspective, maybe “Collaboration?”

f. Event Planning:

SEMESTER GOAL:

- Debrief Jingle Mingle Event
- Spring Fling
- Other potential events:
 - Create monthly lunches at the Bean? Or at other locations.
 - Walks at Lunsford?
 - Walking challenges.

Last Meeting Follow-up:

N/A

New Business:

- Staff Senate Chapel for Spring: Put it on the calendar & discuss speakers/music
 - Monday, May 11, 2026 at 11:00.
 - Speaker: TBD
 - Music: TBD, Laura Dickson, Bridget Moore, Cheryl, Johnny.
- Bylaw update considerations for longevity/sustainability
 - Committee updates: which to include?
 - Timeline of service/leaders
- Discussion RE: Mission

The Staff Senate is organized as a voice to foster a spirit of a unified staff community by encouraging the exchange of ideas and concerns in keeping with the mission of the University. As such, the Staff Senate will seek to promote a positive and collaborative work environment that is committed to assessing, prioritizing, and communicating staff needs.

 - How is what we’re doing accomplishing this– or not?
 - Office hours and encouragement letters are a plus.
 - How many campus changes (workday, phones, etc.) are voted on/discussed by Staff Senate? Can staff feel like they have more buy-in?
 - Record what we have done.
 - Be more proactive and intentional.
 - What is in our control? We can’t change but we can bring awareness that can lead to change.
 - What are we missing? Let staff know about SLT and that SLT hears their needs. Making people aware. What does positive mean? It’s vague...

- Setting SS Open/Available Hours
 - Chris, Lyndsey were open to it
 - Maybe every two weeks in the Library/Starbucks area at a certain time. First and third week of every month (?)
 - Wednesday mornings (9-10)/Thursday afternoons (2-3) TBD
 - Potentially anonymous forms or in a Collaboration room for more private conversations.
 - Not supposed to be a grievances meeting only for complaints.
- Break out and schedule committee meetings
- Prep for Next Week's Newsletter
 - Lyndsey will add shout out for HR, and link to BJ's chapel.
 - Ruthless Study details
 - Monthly FAQ - maybe Rec center classes or spotlight Ruthie
 - Monthly Staff Person - Ruthie

Announcements

-org chart is now in workday (though not accurate yet)

Additional agenda items. None.

Anne Hocking adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting - February 5, 2026.

Minutes recorded by James Choi