

**Staff Senate Meeting**  
**January 15, 2021 10 AM**  
**McCandless Hall**

1. Call to Order – Chris Latham
  - a. Present: Chris Latham (Presiding Officer), Joy Clark (Penny Pitts, Proxy), Pamela Clark, Jasmine Crutcher (replacing Kim Braden), Barbara Ferguson, ~~Beth Jenkins~~, Kayla Kohanek-Tankersley, Regina Kyle, Morgan Meadows, Chris Moss (Senator-at-Large), Felicia Mucci, Debbie Wilson
2. Acceptance of Minutes from previous meeting
  - a. Minutes from the November 2020 meeting were accepted and approved with no changes.
3. Old Business
  - a. Staff Mentoring Program – Progress Update. Discussion: Regina Kyle presented an update on the Staff Mentoring Program. She stated that a list of mentor and mentee participants will be sent out for review so that everyone can become familiar with our new employees. She encouraged mentors to begin meeting with their mentees to help get them acquainted to resources connected to the university. A Spring Zoom Kick Off session is being discussed as a way to get everyone connected.
  - b. Covid-19 Check-In. Discussion: Chris reported that we have received very few questions regarding the vaccine requirement; at this time university administration has made no determination about making the vaccine mandatory. A survey may be presented to determine the interest level in getting availability for faculty/staff. Guide Safe daily self-check monitoring continues to be used to primarily mitigate symptoms of people attending large campus gatherings or sessions. CARES Act funding was used toward gate security checks for an added level of security.
4. New Business
  - a. Valentine’s Day Flower Sale. Discussion: Felicia and Kayla contacted various vendors and found that Nip-n-Tuck offered the best prices. Staff Senate can purchase carnations for .50 wholesale. After discussion, it was agreed to proceed with Nip-n-Tuck for a quantity of 700 carnations; roses will not be sold this year. The committee approved profits be allocated to The Full Tummy Project.
  - b. Inauguration Day “Watch Party”. Discussion: A Staff Senate member was approached with the request to host an inaugural “watch party”. After much discussion it was determined that logistically it would be difficult to pursue due to many areas around campus being renovated where large gatherings could congregate and ensure appropriate social distancing measures. It was recommended instead that safe protocol be determined by each department.
  - c. Professional Development Opportunities. Discussion: Barbara reported that a new Harassment/Discrimination module has been released and staff members may again be asked to participate in that training. The goal is to have 140 faculty/staff members review the module. Participants names will be entered for a gift card giveaway. Other topics will be reviewed for later Fall dates, as face-to-face sessions are not being considered at this time.
5. Departmental Concerns/Announcements:
  - a. January 20<sup>th</sup> SACS and QEP review meetings will be held in Sandridge Rm 126 and CB 106.
  - b. The web Survey Tool is getting very little response. It will be advertised in *Athens Insider* next week.
6. Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Debbie Wilson.

*Debbie Wilson*