



STAFF SENATE

ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY

Staff Senate Meeting
November 17, 2023 10:00am
McCandless Hall- Griffin Auditorium & Zoom

Present: Pam Bridges, Carolyn Carthen, Diego Chulan, Kathryn Doaty, Ben Dumas (zoom), Kim Dunnavant, Donna Holland, Amber Martinez, Elaine McGill, Whitney Michael, Valerie Sellers

Absent: Beth Jenkins, Amber Skantz

1. **Order-** Meeting called to order by Amber Martinez.
2. **Minutes-** The minutes were accepted and approved.
3. **Old Business**
 - a. Fall Fundraiser Chili Cook Off, Bake Sale, Pumpkin Decorating Contest-Oct. 30th-successful with over \$900 raised for Ava Grace Foundation
 - b. Staff Secret Santa-Dec. 4th-7th, applications due Nov. 15th
 - c. Kids to Love
4. **New Business**
 - a. Cabinet updates-Dr. Wehlburg introductions
 - i. Keith Ferguson-updates to department personnel, Bailey Clark-Chief Foundation Accountant and Denise Santos-Director of Alumni Affairs and new to the board.
 1. Learning Partnerships are growing-now over 30 Learning Partnerships, offering Early Bird Special of a 20% discount. Last Fall generated \$47,000-\$49,000 in tuition revenue, now approximately \$180,000.
 2. CLL is officially going away and officially rebranded as LaunchBox-business incubator to support local businesses and entrepreneurship in our community.
 - ii. Mike McCoy-updates on facilities and reminder of pay dates for November & December.
 1. Maintenance building is complete and mostly moved in.
 2. Plans to move forward with the tear down and rebuild of the Nazaretian House. Bids for it and the renovation of Brown Hall before next Board Meeting-funds from a supplemental fund from last year.
 3. The only building left for renovation is Carter Hall.
 4. Budget proposal started for FY24-25 to send to Montgomery.
 5. Questions received: What is the future for Carter? Are there any plans yet? An event space-old pool are into a multi-purpose space, main space for large gatherings and/or partitioned sections for 4 smaller training spaces-possible gym build out. No definitive plans yet-possible LaunchBox extension and pre-k labs mentioned.
 - iii. Chris Latham-updates in Marketing.
 1. Up&Up partnership-commercials, surveys going out, audit on marketing flow-move on to concepts in January. Campaign live in March. Commercials air end of this month and new billboards-results of campaign should be seen in Fall 2024.
 2. Marketing strategies and advertising for Hispanic community.
 - iv. Dr. Lee Vartanian-Academic Affairs updates, along with Student Services
 1. Canvas roll out went smoothly.
 2. New Masters Programs-Masters of Fine Arts-Integrative Design will be the equivalent to a Doctorates in the Art community.
 3. Faculty presence-new campus requirements implemented.

4. New recruiter, Joseph Coluga-bilingual in English and Spanish.
 5. Open positions-Administrative Assistant in Student Services, Transcript Translator, Scholarship Specialist.
 6. ALSO office-helping Adult learners translate their skills to further their education.
- v. Belinda-updates on ATLAS reorganization.
1. Tech Services & Instructional Design-Lynn Franks
 2. ID (Faculty training) reports to Dr. Vartanian
 3. Tech Services-Client Services-Help Desk for direction
 4. IT Services for campus services

5. Announcements/Concerns-Amber Martinez

- i. Staff questions taken-Gym option for campus employees in the Carter renovation.
 1. Mike is open to discussion. What are the expectations? What are we looking for? Liability? Short term vs. long term? Walking track, treadmills, low impact equipment. Phases to be implemented once what is wanted and/or needed is decided.
 2. Committee to research and develop a plan-Jennifer Mares, Mike McCoy, Pam Bridges, Ronda Kelly, Whitney Michael, Linda Graves, Jeffery Guenther
- ii. Translation help for students needed.
 1. Anastasia-translation help-not available right now. What options are available? Buy textbooks in native language? Use translation during tests? Honorlock won't allow it.
 2. Check what other schools have done. Diego can investigate and see what parameters might be available. Utilize ESL professors' expertise to explore options.
- iii. Follow up on Kids to Love
 1. Buy gifts for foster kids? Donate to a box? Set a wish list for a specific child, like Angel Tree. No discussion. Tabled to try for a plan next year.
 2. Jennifer Mares-lots of volunteer opportunities for Kids to Love. Encourage individual charities for various things.
- iv. Motion to adjourn from Elaine; second from Carolyn.

Meeting Adjourned- Meeting adjourned. Minutes recorded by Whitney Michael.