



STAFF SENATE

ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY

Staff Senate Meeting
Aug. 21, 2025 10:30 am
McCandless Hall- Griffin Auditorium &
Zoom

Present: Pam Bridges, Carolyn Carthen-zoom, Kathryn Doaty, Kim Dunnavant-proxy Dana Waldrop, Donna Holland, Amber Martinez (PO), Elaine McGill, Whitney Michael (secretary), Valerie Sellers

Absent: Diego Chulan, Ben Dumas, Beth Jenkins, Amber Skantz

New Senators: Lauren Blacklidge, Kathryn Doaty, DJ Doorenbos, Magen Johnson, Jennifer Mares, Gabrielle McGraw, Victoria Mould, Tricia Oleyte, Morgan Stanford, Jerry Stephens-proxy Linda Graves

Absent: Elizabeth Bowden

1. **Order-** Meeting called to order by Amber Martinez at 10:30 am.
2. **Minutes-** Minutes for the June meeting were approved. Motion to accept from Elaine McGill. Second by Kathryn Doaty.
3. **Old Business**
 - a. Staff Professional Development Fund-update
 - b. Policy & Review Committee – no update
 - c. Committee updates-John Booty Award-on hold for new Staff Senators
4. **New Business**
 - a. New Staff Senators-New PO and Secretary
 - As Jerry Stephens' proxy, Linda Graves puts forth Jerry's nomination as Presiding Officer. Amber Martinez confirms speaking with Jerry about his interest in serving as PO.
 - Amber Martinez called for a vote for Jerry as PO. The vote was unanimous.
 - Amber requested secretary nominations. DJ Doorenbos volunteered.
 - Amber called for a vote for DJ as secretary. The vote was unanimous.
 - b. Staff Professional Development Funds are still available-Please submit your request ASAP. All POs must be approved and paid for before September 30th.
 - c. Paul Whitehead asked about the Staff Gym relocation during Carter renovations.
 - Whitney Michael announces that the room in Sanders Hall North stairwell is being converted into the Staff Gym. A badge reader is being added to the exterior door of the north wing to allow employees to have access during gym hours.
 - d. Whitney Michael-reminder about Standing Staff Senate Committees needing new Chairs, as they are required to be current Senators.

- New senators will take nominations at the next meeting for new chairs and anyone wanting to serve on a current committee.
- e. Whitney Michael requests discussion of past Staff Appreciation “Stress Tacos”.
 - Whitney Michael makes a motion to donate the tacos to one or two of the local schools for their staff to show our appreciation for them. Elaine seconds.
 - Amber Martinez calls for a vote. The majority vote in favor. Motion carries.
- f. Amber Martinez announces that Trish DiLullo is taking over the Ducky Awards. Please email appreciation@athens.edu to send a special message and duck to someone on campus.

5. Concerns/Announcements

a. Morgan Standford asks where to find a staff org chart?

- All org charts can be found on the Portal

6. Next meeting is TBD by the new Staff Senators.

Meeting Adjourned- Meeting adjourned at 10:52 am. Minutes recorded by Whitney Michael.