



October 17, 2025
McCandless Hall Auditorium

Present: Jerry Stephens (Presiding Officer), D.J. Doorenbos (Secretary), Lauren Blacklidge, Elizabeth Bowden, Kathryn Doaty, Magen Johnson, Jennifer Mares – Proxy Joseph Colunga, Gabrielle Whitney McGraw, Victoria Mould, Tricia Oleyte – Proxy Jordyn Lee, Morgan Stanford

Absent: Amber Martinez (Officer At Large)

1. **Order** – Meeting called to order by Jerry Stephens at 10:00am.
2. **Approval of the agenda** – Agenda was sent earlier this week for review but was not approved prior to meeting. Motion to approve agenda as disseminated by Victoria Mould. Second by Gabrielle Whitney McGraw. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of minutes** – Minutes for the September monthly meeting and the special meeting on October 10 were approved. Motion to approve by Victoria Mould. Second by Lauren Blacklidge. Motion carried.
4. **Senior Staff updates**
 - President Wehlburg held an “Ask Me Anything” session earlier this week. Encourage more employees to participate.
5. **Committee Reports**
 - Constitution & Bylaws
 - Lauren Blacklidge is meeting with Kim Dunnavant to move get updates on where the committee was before hand-off to new chair.
 - Need more volunteers for the committee.
 - Elections
 - Gabrielle Whitney McGraw has met with Elaine McGill and Victoria Mould regarding the Elections Committee.
 - Only Staff Senators can participate in the Elections Committee.
 - No immediate meetings scheduled.



STAFF SENATE

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- Jerry Stephens commented regarding last year's Staff Senate previous motion to move for staff vote of approval to changes in elections process/rules.
 - Will follow up with Gabrielle.
- Events/Fundraising
 - Magen Johnson and Elizabeth Bowden reported that Fall Fundraiser will be October 28th from 11:00am-1:00pm and will consist of a chili cook-off, pumpkin decorating, and bake sale.
 - Need additional participants and volunteers to provide supplies.
 - The designated cause for the event is the Student Emergency Assistance Fund.
 - At next meeting in November, there will be discussion of amount used from the Fall Fundraiser used to replenish the agency fund.
- Professional Development
 - Kathryn Doaty confirmed that the use of Staff PD funds for the Javon Glasgow event has been tabled.
 - Kathryn Doaty, D.J. Doorenbos, and Ronald Rollon worked to have the Staff PD application request added to the Staff Senate webpage as a digital application.
 - The Staff PD fund is \$10,000 this year.
 - The committee voted to split the fund to designate \$5,000 for quarterly speakers and \$5,000 for individual use (with a limit of \$250 max per request).
 - a. First quarterly speaker focus will be mental health.
 - Tabled the books for purchase for further review due to fiscal year end.
- Staff Mentoring
 - Currently need more volunteers for the committee.



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- Recycling -
 - Pending volunteer for chair position.
 - Athens City is no longer picking up recycling, so recycling would have to be completed through Jefferson Street Recycling Center if the option is available.
 - Reported that Athens State and the current cleaning services provider are in talks regarding recycling options.

6. Old Business

- None to discuss at this time

7. New Business

- Website & Portal updates
 - D.J. Doorenbos has submitted requests for website clean up including adding the most recent approved minutes, current senators, Staff PD application.
 - A new photo is needed of current senators.
 - Working to get committee member lists so they can be added to the Staff Senate portal page.

8. For the Good of the Order

- Story Tellers
- The Wall That Heals needs volunteers to assist primarily with set up, take down, and overnight shifts.

9. Next meeting – November 21, 2025

10. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 10:27am. Minutes recorded by D.J. Doorenbos.