The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:00am on Thursday, October 3, 2019 in the Alumni Conference Room, School of Dental Medicine by President Toberman.

Present: Ian Toberman, David Balai, Angie White, Collin Van Meter, Melanie Schoenborn, Domonique Crosby, Cindy Cobetto, Denyse Anderson, Jan Caban, Anne Cavanaugh, William Dusenbery, Anthony Fearon, Ken Holbert, Shane Kessinger, John Milcic, Jennifer Zurliene, Michael Pulley (ex officio), Anne Hunter (ex officio)

Excused: Gretchen Fricke, Mark Ferrell, Darryl Cherry, Carolyn Jason, Brittany Logan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The minutes for the September 5, 2019 regular meeting were approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Public comment was moved to the top of the agenda, consistent with the Board of Trustees.

There was a question about the roundabout outside of Lot A, and it was noted that there will be plants to discourage people from walking through it.

Timothy Staples is the new permanent director at East St. Louis.

MONTHLY UPDATES:
There was no Treasurer Report available as the Foundation has not been able to provide reports since April due to a system transfer.

The President reported that Dean Budzban has announced his retirement from the position of Dean but not the University, and encouraged everyone to read the ALESTLE for more detailed information. A search will be coming to replace him, and the LIS Dean search should be starting sometime in October. A 2.75% increase was approved by the Board of Trustees, and the Building Service Workers finished their contract. The University seems to be wanting to make a reinvestment in personnel.

Student Government is working on a proposed Inclement Weather dismissal and closure policy for the Chancellor to consider, and they are looking to set a temperature/wind chill floor for closure as well as asking for clarification on procedures. There was a discussion about inclement weather, and the Executive Board will discuss the Student Government proposal at the next meeting. The concern for Staff Senate is when faculty do not have to work but staff members do. Unrepresented groups are impacted by essential personnel requirements as some of the represented groups now have language about it. Non-exempt employees can choose comp time or overtime, but some departments are not following the policy correctly and are dictating how they are compensated.
The Staff Senate Banquet was discussed.  51 tickets were sold, and the goal was 75.  If the event is dropped, it will be difficult to restart.  Using the upstairs space allows for more control of room size.  The Fund-Raising Committee was directed to provide recommendations for future events and direction in regards to the banquet.

Schoenborn reported that she is making an effort to meet in-person with all Open Range personnel.

Cavanaugh reported that Homecoming went really well, and the committee is pleased with the turnout. Participation in the run and the Cougar Fan Zone was good, and alumni turnout was high.  WSIE talked about the event on their broadcast.  Crosby noted that students do not enjoy Homecoming and do not feel that it is about them, so there is still some disconnect.

The MUC Board met on October 2.  There is a big push for Cougar Bucks with ID cards, and a 20% discount is applied.  Pizza Hut will be leaving in May, to be replaced by Paavo’s Pizza during renovation over Summer.  Chick-fil-A will also be renovated over the Summer.  Auntie Anne’s bought out Cinnabon, so it may become part of Auntie Anne’s in the MUC.  The food show will take place on October 10 in the Ballroom.  Cougar Store sales are down 15%, and the minimum wage increase is expected to have a significant impact on the MUC.  New laser projectors were installed in the ballroom, and an E-Sports arena is going to be added.  Room rental rates and scheduling are being reviewed.  Starbucks will be adding the library to their franchise, but what form and when has not been determined.

Pulley provided an update on SUCSAC, noting that there are two important topics coming up.  The definition of soft-funded employees is the biggest concern as it could be interpreted to be anything not state funded.  There are discussions about making a new class of Civil Service employees that would not have any rights until a certain time period has passed.  Concerns include how specialized positions are, bumping rights, and the fluidity of funding sources.  The process has not started yet, but it is close to the point where a rule will be written and sent to JCAR.  The first reading is when the biggest impact can be made with people speaking for or against.  They are also looking at the disciplinary process to see if there are efficiencies that can be put into place.  It should be difficult to fire someone, but primarily it is up to supervisors to do their job and document properly.  The topic of tuition waivers has come up, and while the Civil Service rule does not protect it to allow people to not make up time, historically the University has allowed it.  The Council of Councils meeting was not communicated to the Staff Senate, and that information will be passed on.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
President Toberman was given freedom to choose the terms of office for CHAPA appointments at the September meeting, and he determined that Fricke and Cavanaugh would serve a three-year term, King would serve a two-year term, and Balai would serve a one-year term.

NEW BUSINESS:
There was no new business.

ACTION ITEMS:
It was moved and seconded to make $1500 available for the Faculty for Collective Bargaining
Scholarship in Spring 2020, and the motion was adopted unanimously. When the Scholarship Handbook is finalized, the application deadline will be determined.

There was a review of the Parking and Traffic Committee appointments. Their papers allow for people to be appointed and continue in perpetuity until recalled, but this is not consistent with Staff Senate documents that state it is a two-year term. Olsen and Balai completed their two-year terms, but it could not be determined when Scaturro and Dusenbery were appointed. The Staff Senate will re-establish our process on when terms end. There was a motion and second to appoint Kim Olsen and Anthony Fearon to the Parking and Traffic Committee, and it was approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
The Staff Senate Banquet will take place on October 10, 2019.

The December 5 regular meeting is moved to December 12 due to the Board of Trustees meeting. It is anticipated that there will be a funding discussion. People are encouraged to plan on attending and requesting to be placed on the speaker list. Employees should be allowed release time for this purpose.

The January 2 regular meeting is moved to January 9 as it is the first day after the holiday.

Toberman will not be present for the November meeting at Supporting Services, and Balai will be presiding.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:
There were no future agenda items discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:
The meeting adjourned at 10:27am.

Submitted by Anne Hunter, University Governance
I. CALL TO ORDER
II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
III. PUBLIC COMMENT
IV. MONTHLY UPDATES
   a. Officers
   b. Staff Senate Committees
      i. Fund-Raising Committee
   c. University Committees
   d. Search Committees
   e. Ex-Officio
V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
VI. NEW BUSINESS
VII. ACTION ITEMS
     a. Request for Funds – FCB Spring 2020 Scholarship
     b. Parking and Traffic Committee Appointment
VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
     a. Staff Senate Banquet – October 10, 2019
     b. Staff Senate December Meeting moved to December, 12, 2019
     c. Staff Senate January Meeting moved to January 9, 2020
IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
X. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting of the Staff Senate Executive Committee will be Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 9:00am in the Magnolia Room, Morris University Center
Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 9:00am in the Police Department Conference Room, Supporting Services