

# Staff Senate

## Minutes

2/28/2022 | 10:00 AM | TEAMS

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### Call to Order

### Approval of Minutes

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### President's Corner

- Rescheduled for Monday, Feb 28 @10am

This portion of the meeting was rescheduled from the 2/23/22 meeting. This was due to a scheduling conflict that Dr. Licari had. The meeting was held on Teams. Dr. Licari thanks everyone for their time. He remarks that tomorrow March 1 is his one-year anniversary of being at APSU. It's been a good year. I hope for you it has been for me.

A couple of updates, the design continues for the health professions building the upcoming occupants of that building have been pretty busy—working with Marc Brunner and others. They are laying out what the building needs to do and who will be in it etc. We are going to have three different clinics in there and the building will interface with the community. Certain things have to be thought about parking etc. The timeline is still that it would be ready for business in Fall 2024. That's still the timeline a little bit of a ways away.

Last week, I was in front of the senate higher ed committee giving our budget proposal to them and the proposal still reflects the Governor's proposed budget. Pretty sizeable increase in our allocated funds from the State because we did so well in the formula. The Kimbrough Business program is still in there. I highlighted that. In a way the fastest growing college that we have. It's a really important thing we have for students. The proposed salary increase that the State has is a 4% salary increase. They are only funding half of the that so that's the catch. They are only giving us enough to cover 2%. That means we have to scrounge and look for the other 2%. The institute for national security and military studies that was funded for the first year and we are asking for round two of funding. Another 750,000 ask. The initial ask from last year was funding 2.5 million of institute money. They broke that into three distinct years. The institute is up and running we were able to hire the Director and get the academic program going it's connected to a bachelor's degree program. I don't anticipate any issues getting the next rounds of funding. The search for the VP of Finance (Mitch Robinson) is retiring at the end of June. I was very grateful I could get him to change his mind last year and stay with us another year. He was slated to retire the very first month I started and didn't think that would go well at all. That could have been bad for the university so we are very thankful he extended his time. Maria Cronley is the chair I need to talk to her and make sure a webpage gets put out identifying who is on the committee and timelines. Jerica is your rep. If you have questions about the process she can't speak too much about confidential details but she can give you a timeline. That's in the early stages of the process. We did hire the Storbeck firm. They hired myself and Maria. Julia is very

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familiar with campus and familiar with campus leadership logistics etc. She knows the people involved and this makes me feel confident. When I worked with her as a candidate she was helpful and a great resource. Candidates will find her to be good to work with.

Let's see, I want to take a look at enrollment figures. I get an update weekly. Still looking good we are well ahead of last year and within the ballpark of being back to Fall 2019 pre-pandemic. The last pre-pandemic class basically. I feel good about where we are with incoming freshman. It's too early to know about transfer students etc. One of the good things that is persisting here is the make up of the class so far, and this fall class had been the most academic prepared class we've had. This one is also shaping up to beat that one by a substantial margin. The quality of incoming students we are seeing it in the scholarship numbers. The class you bring in that is more college ready is much more likely to be retained and persist and much more likely to graduate. That's why we are here to get our students across the finish line. The more students we graduate the better we fair in the funding formula as well. I feel pretty good. As a President, a lot of my job is to remain unsatisfied with where we are at and keep pushing. We are making good positive steps to get out of this enrollment hole. Things are trending in the right direction.

We have the last OVC Basketball tournament that we will ever play in. That starts Wednesday for the men's team and Thursday for the women's team game. I'll be up in Evansville for a bit cheering them on. Will hopefully have some business to handle this weekend up there. Does anyone have questions? We are now ready to fire away on that.

President Swiger asks Past President Mitchell if we have any anonymous questions? Past President Mitchell will pull it up and President Swiger says we did not discuss any Wednesday.

It seems most of what is discussed at staff senate seems informational and is there going to be an opportunity to actually make a change? -President Swiger says we did discuss that on Wednesday.

Dr. Licari says we are meeting next Wednesday myself and Jerica if a question pops up just make sure you get it to her and we can chat about it next week. Dr. Licari says please don't hesitate to reach out and find a way to get it to me. I try to be as accessible as I can.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

Next Meeting  
Wednesday, March 23 @ 3pm

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