

# Staff Senate

## Minutes

09/28/2022 | 3:00 PM | UC 307

### Call to Order – 3:00 PM

**President Allen calls the meeting to order at 3pm.**

### Approval of Agenda – 3:00 PM

**The first order is approved Senator D’Alimonte and Senator Board approve this.**

### University President’s Report, President Michael Licari – 3:00 PM to 3:15 PM

Dr. Licari is invited up to the front. He thanks everyone for their participation with homecoming and talks about how amazing it was and it’s clear the experiences that alumni and community members had are absolutely fantastic. People and faculty and staff that were here when they were here. The game was great. The first half was a little rough the second half was where the action was. Our next home game is October 15<sup>th</sup> that’s our military appreciation game we will have Bradley fighting vehicle and a flyover from the 101<sup>st</sup> division and then one will land on the soccer field if you want to go and look at that.

Project updates on some campus projects. Either in the works or will be. The health professions building update is the State has greenlit our move forward in design even though we haven’t gotten all the money we need to build. Normally the State says you can’t do that but we got permission to do that. The update came from Marc Brunner we can request the remainder of the funds that we are going to need to finish the building. This will delay our ask for any other capital requests. This will be our only other request during the budget cycle. We had some student success ideas and other things we wanted to do but this is basically a requirement the way I see it. Building half of the health professions building is not going to be a thing and there is no point.

The Welcome Center is the transformation of the Honda building on college street into a one stop shop. Academic Advising and things like that will be a one stop shop. When you drive by college street. Johnny’s isn’t going anywhere don’t worry I am single handedly keeping them in business. It feels like it’s just a bunch of abandoned car lots we need to transform that.

The Welcome center will be a big step in the right direction there. The project is actually moving pretty quickly so that’s exciting. Spring of 2024 we should be good there. A couple of other projects at some point in the year we will start the refurbishing of the green man bowl I love that space and so do students they hang out there but it’s looking shabby it needs some help. College street practically from

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the red river there is going to be resurfaced that's a State project. They are going to be working at night and that's great because I live there in a single paned house so jackhammers at 3 am sucks. What we are going to do is replace the AP logo on university and college there. That's worn out and needs to be re done. We are going to add a gov head on the intersection of college and 8<sup>th</sup> you will see that yep we are arriving at Austin Peay so that should be pretty cool too. We are in the final stages of an athletics master plan. Not sure when we will roll that out but sometime in the near future. Not guarantees but aspirations for what could or should happen. No planning or timeline just here is what we would do if we had everything we could ever dream of so that will roll out and we are in the early stages of a new campus master plan. The one we currently have was tweaked in 2017 or somewhere like that. It's basically expired and we need to update this. Most campus master plans they just get reinvented rather than replaced. We are in the process of putting together a group that will request this.

THEC basically won't consider capital requests that aren't on your campus master plan so it's very important to be thoughtful about this. It's super early but we are just putting this together now. The development can't happen until we've selected the consultant.

Senator Powell asks, we are moving forward with the HPB like we will get the funding from the state is there any indication we won't? No, he hasn't heard that. Normally they rank these requests which seem random and political. They said they aren't going to do that. They are going to put it in their request to the governor. I haven't heard anything that would give me cause to be worried. Dr. Licari can't stay he has a 3:30 and can't stay.

### **Campus Free Speech Survey, VP Dannelle Whiteside – 3:15 PM to 3:30 PM**

She does not have a presentation today. She comments her child just started school at 3 and is bringing home every germ possible she has water here with her if she gets to coughing. VP for Legal Affairs and Org strategy. A survey will be released soon. The general assembly released something related to divisive subjects. Basically, prohibiting higher ed employees have to agree with these things. The law says we have to survey people about their thoughts and opinions on these divisive subjects. Carol, myself, Dr. Luna, LaNeeca, Greg Singleton, and Tucker Brown. We all got together to craft a survey about their opinions. That survey will launch October 17<sup>th</sup>. This coincides with free speech week. It will be 6 questions short and sweet. I feel comfortable I don't, with or without retaliation questions like that. We really want you to participate. If people do feel pressured we also want to know that. What we don't want is only people who feel pressured we want everyone to give a broad answer. We have to share these with the general assembly. The survey will go out October 17<sup>th</sup> and be live for the entire week. Please encourage colleagues we need

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people to participate. Senator Gilbert asks if it will come from an internal source? Yes, it will come for DSIR it's a confidential survey the results will be published but not the unique responses we can't say anonymous but unique. We don't want some extremist group to get ahold of it or anything like that. The only person who will know is me. I don't have the expertise to drill down and figure out who said what. Has the state mandated a minimum response rate asks Senator Christmas? They have not. Florida's response rate was so abysmal they couldn't tell any results. What I think will happen if we have a decent pool is there is no problem and we will hear nothing else about this for the rest of eternity. VP Fisher asks, I'm surprised to hear that the state let you guys figure out the questions. Dannelle says I am happy they didn't I am happy they let us pick. I sit on a call and we have to show a good faith effort or they won't trust us but we engaged in a real conversation and process and I hope that will be enough to satisfy them. Is this open to students as well or only staff? Students and employees have a different set of questions. They are very similar. Will they be a national publication or state or do we know? What we do know is our budget hearing is in February so we will likely have to address this during that time. We will figure out the best way to share these results. Not that we would hide if it says something bad. Please fill out the survey and encourage students and colleagues to do so. We are sending it through Greg's office to all registered students.

### **Newton Military Family Resource Center, Jasmin Linares – 3:30 to 3:45 PM**

Jasmin emailed staff senate a moment ago she can't make it.

### **Action Items – None**

### **Information Items – 3:45 PM to 3:55 PM**

- University Standing Committee Reports  
Has anyone met since our last meeting if yes what have you discussed?  
Senator D'Alimonte doesn't even know if she's on one. Senator Christmas was well trained on institutional effectiveness meeting and it was great for IE. The policy committee met earlier this month. We just had the policies we voted on last time nothing new is scheduled at this time. No other reports?
- Staff Senate Committee Reports  
Bylaws—VP Fisher will get to that very soon. Hanging my head low I promise and constitution revision staff appreciation and recognition. As far as staff appreciation we have not met yet that is on Senator D'Alimonte's calendar for tomorrow we have not had a chance just yet that will get scheduled soon!

President Allen says the goal will be one meeting for each of those by the end of the year.

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- Faculty/Staff Senate Mixer, October 20 at 3:30-4:30

This was discussed with Perry Scanlan and we picked this date. You can come mingle and then when the mingling is over feel free to scoot. Where will this be held? TBD. Since it's late in the day we just want to have some refreshments. Might have people bring some light snacks there. We might check and see if coke can provide some beverages. We do have our full budget or we could ask faculty senate.

- Monthly Social for October

Any ideas, President Allen suggests the Halloween concert. This does sell out extremely fast. Dr. Steinquest puts that on in music. It is scheduled for Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 and 8. Supposed to go on sale next week maybe. Generally, a week or two in advance. Usually pretty close. Just one idea are there others.

Senator Powell says lots of music events 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>. Other choir and music events. Music could be a good theme for October. Kelly will send out a doodle poll with music events. VP Fisher likes the idea we would pick something not super well attended always and show our support.

It sounds like the Halloween thing sells out they don't need the extra help maybe we could focus on the smaller events. We will look up if that costs money and include that in the survey. Senator Gilbert says it could be fun if we did a costume contest for staff even it was a small prize of APSU swag—plus it's on a Monday so that could be fun. If we are giving away something we have to do a gift prize award form. Senator Gilbert says we have a bunch of old promotional items. We could donate some stuff. Advancement has some good stuff.

Senator O'Brien says November will be a zombie prom musical. 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> at Trahern. Lois has a question why don't the kids come trick or treat any more Kelly explains about food allergies and things being unsafe for kids to consumer over the years more of the children have allergies and it's a safety thing.

Sign ups for ghost are on peaylink right now. Should we do that? – most likely not

- Follow Up Items

Talked with Perry Scanlan about a joint meeting and maybe would just be informational but wouldn't make sense to do a business meeting. The best time for faculty would be in august before faculty get started back. So, I'll turn that over for VP Fisher

I talked to Dr. Licari about the staff salary increase he did let me know that at this time there is no plan to review that until the 5-year date as that was intended to be a permanent change. The strategic plan does include items for staff professional

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development so that could be a strategy. I also talked about tuition reimbursement there was a pause on that to exclude courses taken outside of APSU so people who take classes here are not effective or people who started before it was enacted. He's not sure since we are navigating that budget gap will not be before July 2023. No comments on either of those follow up items.

Kelly sent out the Sodexo menu link. I hope everyone is taking advantage of their meal each week and should be able to find it they also post a story on their Facebook and Instagram. Are people going? People nod and acknowledge people comment that it's free. It is only one meal a week and it does not roll over or is not transferrable if you miss a week you just miss a week only during the active students on campus semester times. Summers do not count.

### **Senator Updates and Announcements – 3:55 PM to 4:00 PM**

- September Monthly Social – Home Soccer Game, September 29 at 6:00 PM  
This is tomorrow at the soccer game we will sit as a group. Dr. Licari is intending to come and maybe the Gov too. You can take a picture with your mascot. Invite your colleagues and whoever to join us. People should bring chairs and blankets. We will sit in the general vicinity. We will make it work. You look familiar.

Tomorrow is the benefits fair. 10 am- 2pm. Things are halfway set up. Life insurance and vision some department groups will be there in person maybe give some stuff away. Few local businesses we invite the banks like Fortera, YMCA, Cornerstone and some other places.

Senator Gaither asks about premiums on healthare? President Allen recommends reviewing the newsletter with health it depends on the plan that you are in. Dental is staying the same vision goes up a bit. Nothing goes up more than 5%. There is a webinar a week with the state benefits administration office. One is supposed to be recorded. So, people can watch it as soon as possible. Definitely encourage everyone to at least sign in and review your selections make sure you want what you have this year. Some people don't log in at all. VP Fisher says we are doing a staff senate table. Jasmine designed a flyer and we have candy. Lynn, Kelly, and Jasmine will be there.

Any other updates or announcements. Senator Kilpatrick, has a couple things to say the AASP grant was funded again for the second time. Canned food drive in Dunn 201. Ends on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. End of business on Monday. Benefits fair we have a flu vaccine clinic free flu shots from a grant. At least 100 don't need insurance card or anything.



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VP Fisher says can I say from emergency management stuff this flu season can be really really bad. They are projecting that this flu season could be very bad. We haven't seen in much in the last two years.

VP Allen we will add to the agenda approving the minutes from last time Senator Kilpatrick and Senator Obrien approved. There are none opposed the minutes have been approved.

- Next Meeting
  - 10/26/2022 | 3:00 PM | UC 307

**Adjourn - 4:00 PM- the meeting is adjourned at 3:46.**

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