

STAFF SENATE

Thursday, May 9, 2024
GAC 401 - Boardroom

Members in attendance: Dave Gutoskey, Frank Bowen, Rachel Faust, Joe Benyish, Steve Blankenship, Jennifer Ellis, Isabella Chow, Megan Raymond, Lisa Gray, Shannon Hardester, Tabitha Pilchard, Candace Henry, Kim Meyer

Absent: JJ Remo

I. **Guests:** Eli Modlin, President Lepre, Aurora Edenhart-Pepe, Christine Benoit, Mike Papagikos ,Eric Berkheimer

II. Call to Order
-Joe Benyish

III. Approval of April Meeting Minutes
a. *Motion to approve: Shannon*
b. *Second: Tabitha*

IV. President's Office
a. *We are in communication with other institutions about graduations and protests. We do not expect anything, but we are preparing for the chance. A couple of things we are doing, based on meetings with the board of regents. We will not allow any hate speech or signs. There will be a freedom of expression area outside of the civic center. Civic Center is now requiring metal detectors. We will be opening the Civic center earlier this year to make sure we can accommodate everyone through the detectors.*
b. *Library swap with the museums and library. We have gotten a lot of positive feedback that will help keep the downtown growing. The county council will vote soon.*
c. *Men's Lacross and Softball are ranked at #1. Men's Lacrosse is heading to the final rounds. Softball is in conference championships. Men's Baseball and Womens Lacrosse are ranked 5th and are still competing.*
d. *Still in a holding pattern for the next strategic fund.*
e. *Someone has been hired for the new VP of Inclusion*
f. *The president's office is going to look in to help with activities and events.*

V. Staff senate Liaison- Aurora Edenhart-Pepe
a. Events- A lot of different areas have different systems to organize events.
b. Mike Papagikos – Director of Employee of experience. He is really looking forward to getting the new hire orientation off the ground. He is an advocate of Workday and excited to see it go forward.
c. Telework- Telework/Hybrid worker they are working with flexibility. This would be in person and remote. Working on setting parameters on what this all means.
d. Supervisor feedback, please give relevant helpful feedback. Any disrespectful feedback/comments will be taken out.
e. COLA/Merrit. Looking for a 3 percent COLA to be given to everyone. Merit is still being looked at.



Eric Berkheimer-

a. Blackwell renovation- It will be a 2-year project once construction starts. The first phase will start in July.

Humberto- Title IX-

- a. New regulations were released April 19th for the first time since 2022.
- Broader Scope and Definitions of Sex Discrimination.
- Live hearings are optional.
- Conduct is not limited to inside the US or Education Program or Activity.
- Knowledge Versus Actual Knowledge
- Respecting Complainant Autonomy
- More Rigorous Test for Title IX coordinator to file complaint
- Informal resolution more accessible
- Retaliation Defined
- Training, training, and a lot more training.
- Protections for Parental, Family or Marital Status, Including pregnancy.
- Policies that prevent students from participating in education programs or activities consistent with gender identity violate title IX
- Proper notification is a must

VI. New Business

A.

VII. Old Business

- a. Elections are going well

VIII. Staff Senate Reports

- a. *Staff Senate Chair – Joe*
- b. *CUSS Update – Lisa/Shannon/Dave/Megan-*
- c. *August Meeting*
- d. *Snack & Chat*
- e. *Employee Appreciation Day- All contracts have been signed.*

IX. Other Topics-

X. Adjournment