



## Salisbury University – Staff Senate

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Zoom

**Members In attendance:** Joe Benyish, Steve Blankenship, Donna Carey, Vanessa Collins, Lisa Gray, Paul Gasior, Sara Heim, Teri Herberger, Matt Hill, Tabitha Pilchard, Belinda Poole, Safaa Said

**Members Absent:** N/A

**Executive Staff:** President Wight, Marvin Pyles

Chair, Tabitha Pilchard, opened the meeting at 10:00 am

May minutes were reviewed and approved

### I. Reports

#### a. President Wight

- i. It was announced that a suspect in the graffiti case reached a plea agreement.
  1. SU police department did a great job in building a strong case.
  2. The matter has not gone to court yet.
  3. Question from a Senator: Has there been any motive discovered for why he did what he did? Response: No, but if the judge asks him in open court and he answers it will be a matter of public record.
- ii. All went well with a BLM protest at SU – it was peaceful.
  1. A statement was sent out by the president and CDO in support of the goals of the protest.
  2. Chief Duncan with the Salisbury police department walked in support with the protestors.
- iii. Currently in the planning stages of opening campus for faculty, staff and some students over the summer
  1. USM guidance is to screen those entering campus but we can't do temp checks because it's an invasion of privacy.
  2. Our highest priority is protecting the safety of faculty, staff and students
  3. This cannot be an across the board decision. These types of decisions have to be at the department level while also serving the needs of our students. The goal is to offer as many services in as many modalities as possible to serve as many students as possible. Without students no one is employed.
  4. We won't force someone to do something that is bad for their health. Those who fall into the risk factors will receive accommodations.

#### iv. Budgets

1. There has been a reduction in expenses since departments are being careful not to over spend and some positions are sitting open. The CARES Act nearly balanced the budget for this fiscal year.
2. As we head into next fiscal year we are in a strong position. SU has some reserves but it will be needed since revenues will be down including state revenues and we're not sure by how much.
3. We're going to be ok – we're not only going to survive - we're going to do well and that will serve us well in the future.
4. FY22 will be worse and we will need to be financially responsible as ever this year because it will be tougher next year.

#### b. Marvin Pyles

- i. Chuck is right – we made it through FY20 because of CARES funds that allowed us to break even.

- ii. New budget model was implemented for FY20 and since we finished in the black we will be able to roll over unspent funds at the divisional level
  - iii. Projected revenue for FY21 is now 174 million previous estimates before COVID was 204 million
  - iv. Department of Budget and Management can cut up to 200 million without congressional approval
  - v. Enrollment is projected to be down 5-7%
  - vi. Auxiliary and housing is projected to result in a 25% cut
  - vii. SU has a good healthy fund balance and we've been given permission to dip into the fund balance.
  - viii. We're not near furlough conversations yet – we need to finalize budgets before those conversations can happen
  - ix. Pin line vacancies are being given up to the state – when budgets recover in a year or two the positions will be given back.
  - x. Layoffs are the last thing on the list. We would need to be significantly behind in the budget to start layoffs.
- c. CUSS Updates
- i. Virtual meeting held in May
    - 1. A search committee has formed to select the next president of UMB, a member of staff senate is sitting on the committee.
    - 2. Title 9 changes are being made and there is concern with the new regulations – it gives the accused more rights and might make it so the accusers don't feel comfortable coming forward.
      - a. Senators Tabitha Pilchard & Donna Carrey sit on the Title 9 committee
    - 3. The continue to plan for the reopening in the fall.
    - 4. Nominations for the executive committee will happen during the next session.

## II. Old Business:

- a. Standing Committees – Updates
  - i. Human Resources
    - 1. No update
  - ii. Communications/Snack & Chat Sessions
    - 1. Robin Hoffman to present on Office360. Staff will be given an opportunity to ask questions a few days before the session so Robin can prepare.

## III. New Business:

- a. Staff Senate Suggestion Box – No submissions
- b. Staff Senate Elections Results
  - i. Matt Hill and Amy Waters were elected to represent exempt staff
  - ii. Sara Heim was re-elected to represent contingent staff
  - iii. Lisa Gray was re-elected for CUSS representation and Jessica Scott was elected to act as an alternate
  - iv. Governance Consortium Committee Results:
    - 1. Paul Gasior - Fiscal Advisory
    - 2. Lawanda Dockins-Mills – Government Relations
    - 3. Jenn Hanner - Traffic, Safety, Building, and Grounds
    - 4. Information Tech Committee (NSTCB) had no eligible non-exempt, not-subject-to Collective Bargaining candidates.
    - 5. Margaret Sebastian - Committee on wellness
      - a. There was tie for additional positions. Vanessa to contact the individuals to see who is interested since they were voted for via the write-in option.

- v. Staff Senate discussed and voted on the executive team positions: Tabitha Pilchard - 1<sup>st</sup> Chair, Vanessa Collins - 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair, Joe Benyish - 3<sup>rd</sup> chair, and Sara Heim – Secretary
- c. Employee Appreciation Day
  - i. Canceled this year – will suggest a kind email/letter from the Vice Presidents
  - ii. Ideas are being discussed about a Zoom celebration with some type of offering like a discount to the bookstore or coffee shop for the Fall.

IV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned: 11:10am

Next Meeting – July 9th, Zoom

Respectfully submitted,  
Sara Heim