

TEXAS  STATE[®]
STAFF COUNCIL

AGENDA

November 9, 2021

10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

[ZOOM Meeting](#)

Staff Council Meetings are available via

[Zoom](#) Passcode: Council

The mission of the Texas State University Staff Council shall be to promote and enhance the status of university staff, ensure the effective contribution of staff expertise toward university goals, and act as the liaison between the university president and staff.

The Council shall represent the collective body of the staff and shall report directly to the university president.

Note: Minutes for previous Staff Council meetings are available [on the Staff Council Website](#).

ACTION
(10:00)

Call to Order

Brandi Martinez, Chair

In attendance: Katie Alonzo, Carlos Baca, Cynthia Balboa, Harlan Ballard, Zachary Collins, Nabila Cook, Anita Ford, Noel Fuller, Victoria Gonzales, Judy Herington, Heather Kristoff, Megan Krou, Brandi Martinez, Mayra Meijia, Anthony Padilla, Jennifer Small, Daniel Vasquez, Bailey Verschoyle, Ana Webb, Illona Weber, Rachel Weldon-Caron, Amy Wong, Martin Zavala

SPEAKER

Item 1: Dani Artaza, SuccessFactors Learning

(10:01)

Vanessa Salazar, Dani Artaza, and Sam Williams shared information about the new learning management system, SuccessFactors Learning, and provided a walkthrough of how to use this new system. New features include: ability to be used with multiple browsers, connecting with LinkedIn Learning, and ability to for supervisors to customize training experiences.

Staff can learn more online here: <https://www.hr.txstate.edu/odc/course-offerings/sflearning.html>

UPDATE

(10:20)

Item 2: Upcoming Staff Council Chair Election

Brandi Martinez, Chair

Brandi accepted a new position on campus, and felt she would not have the time to devote to the Chair position. She wanted to see if there was interest in nominating someone for the position. Interested Staff Council members can reach out to the Executive Committee to learn more. An election would likely be held in December.

UPDATE

(10:25)

Item 3: Treasurer's Update (handout)

Carlos Baca, Treasurer

No report was presented at this meeting, but there will be an update for both November and December at the December meeting.

DISCUSSION
(10:30)

Item 4: Subcommittee and External Committee Updates

a) Fundraising

Bailey Verschoyle shared that there is a new Chair of that committee – Martin Zavala. At the last meeting, the subcommittee discussed upcoming fundraising opportunities and planning for the spring parking permit raffle.

b) Council Effectiveness

See ‘Staff Council Goals/Outcomes’ for details.

Noel shared information about each of Staff Council’s goals and where Council was / was not meeting those outcomes.

c) Special Events

Bailey Verschoyle shared that the subcommittee recently met and is working on plans to welcome new staff to campus and get the word out about Staff Council and all that we do. One option might be to invite special guests to meetings (potentially in person), then have a chance after the meeting for staff to meet one another.

d) Faculty and Staff Morale Work Group

This committee recently met and is reviewing data from the survey to identify trends and themes. Overall, it seems to be similar to some of the things Staff Council has already talked about – concerns regarding workload, remote work availability, health and safety, fatigue/burnout, among others. Noel indicated that the committee plans to have a report ready for administration by mid-December.

UPDATE
(10:45)

Item 5: Staff Morale Conversation Follow-Up
Brandi Martinez, Chair

Brandi indicated that she wanted to reopen the conversation from last staff council meeting about staff morale since there was much discussion about the topic from the last Staff Council general meeting.

Staff asked questions about the availability of focus groups to gauge staff morale and the structure of the Staff Morale Work Group. There was also discussion regarding the role of the University in assessing and improving staff morale, as well as the data that the University and Human Resources uses to track and report on staff data.

As a result of this conversation, Staff Council will work with Human Resources to get staff-specific data related to the conversation.

UPDATE
(11:15)

Item 6: Staff Concerns (handout)

Brandi Martinez, Chair

See handout for details.

- a) University Star Ad Inquiry
- b) Cleaning up After Dogs on Campus

UPDATE
(11:30)

Item 7: Announcements (handout)

Brandi Martinez, Chair

See handout for details.

- a) Staff Shout-Out: Diana Connell, Office of the University Registrar
- b) Staff Shout-Out: Jennifer Wood, Retention Management and Planning
- c) Staff Shout-Out: Michelle Kneupper, Student Center
- d) Equality University
- e) Volunteers for Sights and Sounds

UPDATE
(11:45)

Item 8: Review Pending Items

Brandi Martinez, Chair

No updates on the items below, but Council hopes to have an update on these by the next meeting.

- a) Recycling Bin Inquiry
- b) First Aid Kits
- c) Tuition Assistance for Employee Dependents
- d) Red Parking Spaces at Pleasant Street Garage

Council members shared updates from other external committees:

Heather Kristoff shared updates from the ADA Steering Committee. ODS is implementing a new database for their students with a rollout in spring. They also approved paving the gravel pathway that's behind bus stop of UAC where wheelchair users aren't currently finding it accessible. As for the Commons sandbags, that drainage project scheduled for winter break so that the sandbags can be removed.

Noel Fuller encouraged staff to look at the prospectus for the presidential search committee, since it has details about what the University is looking for in a new president.

ACTION
(12:00)

Adjournment

Brandi Martinez, Chair

Motion to adjourn was passed.

Texas State staff are welcome to attend any Staff Council meeting. The list of meeting dates and locations can be found on the [Staff Council Website](#).

If there is a specific issue or concern you would like Council to address, please complete this [form](#). When submitting the form, you can remain anonymous if that is your preference.

All statements made during meetings of the Staff Council shall be privileged communication and remain confidential. Members and guests shall not be subject to retaliation or disciplinary action as a result of expressing their views at Council meetings.

Staff Council meetings are recorded. Guest speakers and associated Q&As may be posted to the Staff Council website. All other recorded portions of the meeting are used to ensure accuracy of transcript data for meeting minutes purposes.

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