



General Senate Meeting

Agenda: Sept. 14, 2022

LSC 241/TEAMS

1:30 – 2:30 PM

- ◆ Call to order – President – Tiffany Driver at 1:32PM
- ◆ Guest Speaker – SHSU 2022 Chief Diversity Officer Jeanine Bias
- ◆ Reading & Approval of Minutes – Tiffany Driver for Maggie Odom; asked if there were corrections. Motion to approve minutes: Megan Ellisor, Second: Heather Caudle
- ◆ Treasurer’s Report – Tiffany Driver for Katie Gense
 - The following is a breakdown of each division:
 - News & Networking – from \$470 to **\$2200**
 - Special Events - \$5,370 to **\$8,150**
 - E-board – from \$830 to **\$2,000**
 - Nominations & Elections – from \$100 to **\$500**
 - Staff Development – from \$6,000 to **\$10,500**
 - Staff Affairs – from \$0 to **\$500**
 - Received everything with budget that we asked for.
 - Need to purchase items due to rebranding such as tents, linens, etc.
 - Need to purchase a Surface Pro to be used for Senate business.
- ◆ President’s Report – Tiffany Driver
 - Attended President’s Council with Dr. White and includes Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, AVP’s, and extended cabinet.
 - This is not a decision-making board.
 - The Strategic Plan is in good shape; next goals are due in November.
 - Started a faculty residency program to live in San Jacinto dorm.
 - Athletics – We are in a new conference so there will be no championships this year. They are having growing pains with ticket sales as we transition to all online sales in order to keep more accurate track of ticketing. They ask for patience from everyone as they work to improve the system.
 - Campus photographer retired and they have hired a new one who starts Oct. 1.
 - We are encouraged to use our social media for good news with SH branding.
 - There is a Barnes & Noble end-of-year luncheon that Tiffany is invited to and cannot attend if there is anyone interested.
 - Sunday Stewart said she would like to attend since she is in the library.
 - We have a Staff Senate luncheon invitation from Dr. White for Sept. 23. Please be firm with your RSVP to avoid changing at last minute.

◆ Committee Chairs Reports

- News & Networking – Megan Ellisor
 - Facebook up 16 followers and 12 page likes
 - Instagram up by 3 followers
 - Link Tree is up 4 clicks with 8 new views
 - Mass email went out today for upcoming Meet & Greet.
 - Website is getting worked on.
 - Retreat Photos can be found in T:\Unrestricted Folder\Ellisor
 - Recent Spotlight on Staff winner: Jennifer Alexander. Erica Lawrence will be presented next.
 - Will post in TEAMS when scheduling to present to them
- Nominations & Elections – Benji Cantu
 - No updates
- Special Events – Amanda Johnson & Robin Pierson
 - Meet & Greet
 - Thursday, Sept. 22, 2022
 - 2pm – 4pm
 - Kat Klub
 - Bowling, prizes & “Who’s in the Room” BINGO!
 - Wear SS T-shirt or Polo
 - Encourage offices to attend!
- Staff Development – Ashley Pickett & Brandy Bishop
 - Theme for PDC for Spring has been submitted to E-board. More to come!
 - First Hot Topic occurred Sept. 13 with Dr. Mukherjee, SHSU Ombuds
 - 26 people attended
 - May try to develop a participant satisfaction survey for future topics.
 - Want to possibly move the Hot Topics from LSC to other areas (such as CHSS) where it is easy to offer virtual participation to satellite campuses & remote staff.
 - Next Hot Topic: Nov. 3: Jeanine Bias; Chief Diversity Officer.
- Staff Affairs – Andrea Hoke
 - August:
 - New Hires: 55
 - Student to Staff: 4
 - Promotions: 2
 - Faculty to Staff: 1
 - Staff Emergency Fund – Previously, there was a Bearkat Emergency Fund for students, but it does not exist anymore. When you click on the application, you receive an auto message, “Thank you for your email. Sam Houston State University has exhausted its HEERF funding and there is no application currently for emergency assistance. If you are in need of emergency assistance, please reach out to the Student Money Management Center, smmc@shsu.edu.”
 - Tabled for E-board discussion/plan of action.
 - Received suggestion: Staff Shared Umbrella Project
 - Similar to Market Street in The Woodlands
 - Perhaps have donors/sponsors instead of SS purchasing them
 - Different buildings across campus would “manage” them
 - Sent to E-board for discussion/decision.
 - Received question: Non-exempt Staff allowed as Adjunct

- Non-exempt staff ARE allowed to serve as adjunct but must receive pay rate of time-and-a-half (overtime). There is no policy against this action.
 - Each department must decide if overtime pay is based on real hours or contact hours AND that department must be willing to pay the variation.
 - October Guest Speaker: IT/Emmet Rumfield
 - ◆ Old Business: Updates, Discussion/Action Items
 - None
 - ◆ New Business: Updates, Discussion/Action Items
 - COM Center has an Assembly Chair (serves like SS); wants to know how they can be more included with campus SS activities.
 - There is a chair, but this individual was not voted in to SS (part of Academic Affairs)
 - The COM budgets \$200/month for birthday celebrations.
 - Asked for suggestions from Senate:
 - Hosting one event “down there” per year
 - Meeting them half-way, like Willis, for example
 - Hosting our Hot Topics from an area that can allow virtual attendance
 - Providing more focus (remote feed) for remote staff
 - Have a liaison from the COM Assembly on the E-board to allow for parallel planning (this may involve bylaw updates; unfair representation of Academic Affairs area??)
 - Allow for Assembly representative to attend our planning meetings such as special events and professional development to plan “similar” activities there. However, this still does not address remote staff or areas in Huntsville away from main campus.
 - It was mentioned that Huntsville campuses should be able to come to main campus – Perhaps we find better solutions for parking when they visit
 - Provide a van/bus to pick up and bring to main campus – Who is going to pay for and drive?
 - Please continue to think about this.
 - Question: Are COM employees allowed or supported to serve on SS? Recently, 2 have been forced to resign and one was a E-board member.
- ◆ Department/Campus Announcements
 - Benji Cantu – The Career Success Center is hosting Career Readiness Week Sept. 26-30. 11:00-11:50 and 12:00-12:50 each day. Free Pizza to all students who attend!
 - Conflict Resolution Month (by Student Legal & Mediation Resolutions) – Check the website. Presentations are all virtual and Talent Management credit is available.
- ◆ Upcoming Events
 - General Senate Meeting
 - October 12, 2022 at 1:30PM
 - LSC 230
 - Staff Chat Hot Topic
 - November 3, 2022
- ◆ Call for Adjournment – Tiffany Driver at 2:33pm Motion: Benji Cantu, Second: Tara Conlee