

LSU | Staff Senate

MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2020

President-Elect Amber Salvadras presided over the November 18, 2020, Staff Senate meeting held by Zoom Video Conferencing at 10:30 a.m.

Executive/Administrative/Managerial

Pr – Reonas, Barbara ('21)
P – Tammy Millican ('23)

Professional/Non-Faculty

Pr – Aslin, Jessica ('21)
Pr – Baldrige, Samantha ('21)
P - Braden, Laurie ('21)
P – Bonner, Amber ('21)
P – Dawan, Hope ('21)
P - GheBreiyessus, Walta ('21)
P- Henry, Rachel ('21)
P – Lane, Madison ('21)
P – Olson, Darcee ('21)
P - Rafaiti, Karina ('21)
P – Garner, Karen ('22)
P – Herman, Catherine
P – Holstein, Lindsey ('22)
P – Lee, Mark ('22)
Pr – Levesque, Jonathan ('22)
A – Nickerson, Jon ('22)
P – Roth, Nicole ('22)
P – Clemmons, Jill ('23)
P – Kimmell, Alyssa ('23)
P – Harb, Ryan ('23)
P – Lewis, John ('23)
P – Marrero, Ali ('23)
P- Sansoni, Gerald ('23)
P – Shows, Haley ('23)
P – Slocum, Jenee ('23)
P – Stone, Megan ('23)
P – Wilson, Derek ('23)

Service/Maintenance

Skilled Crafts

P – Corbitt, Brent ('22)

Technical/Paraprofessional

A – Matkovic, Igor ('23)

Clerical/Secretarial

P – Salesneves, Sarah ('22)
P – Salvadras, Amber ('22)

A – Indicates Absent

P – Indicates Present

Pr – Indicates Proxy

GUESTS:

Caleb Wells, LSU Campus Life
Ellen Cummings, School of Kinesiology
Dr. Dereck Rovaris, Office of Diversity
Roxane Berthelot, Campus Federal Credit Union
Brian Ainsworth, Campus Federal Credit Union
Danielle Taylor, LSU Biological Sciences
Lisa Dieckman, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President-Elect Amber Salvadras at 10:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

There was a quorum with four proxies noted.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President-Elect Amber Salvadras led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – October 21, 2020, Staff Senate Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Treasurer Catherine Herman. The motion, seconded by Past-President Rachel Henry, carried.

GUEST SPEAKER – CALEB WELLS, LSU CAMPUS LIFE

President-Elect Amber Salvadras introduced Caleb Wells who is the Assistant Director of Leadership and Service with Campus Life and manages the LSU Food Pantry as he speaks to the full Senate. Caleb Wells thanked the Staff Senate for the invitation to speak today.

Caleb Wells began by providing some updates since he last spoke to the full Senate.

The pantry recently moved from the third floor of the Student Union to the first floor of the Student Union across from the Tiger Card Office. The transition was needed for a bigger space due to increase in donations and the number of students who use the pantry.

Due to Covid, they have been using an online system where students could schedule a time to pick up items they chose at the pantry. With Covid restrictions, they are accepting volunteers when needed for specific tasks at specific times. They are also working on hiring more student employees.

They are excited to partner with the LSU Staff Senate again this year for the Holiday Box Decorating Contest.

They accept non-perishable food items. The food in the pantry varies depending on donations. Donations from Trader Joe's come through the LSU Food Pantry's affiliation with The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. Rouses has begun to donate as well. They do accept non-food items but that is not their primary focus.

If someone is unable to donate in person, they can go to the Food Pantry's website at lsu.edu/foodpantry to access their Amazon Wish List or make a monetary donation.

Even with the pandemic, the Food Pantry is still very busy. They have handed out about 100,000 pounds of food this year which is the same number as last year even though we are now being socially distant. The need has certainly grown and with support from departments on campus who hold food drives is definitely needed and appreciated.

President-Elect Amber Salvadras mentioned that we have about 20 entries for the box decorating contest. Once the contest is over, Caleb will coordinate pick-up for the donations collected.

President-Elect Amber Salvadras thanked Caleb for attending today's meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER – VICE PROVOST DERECK ROVARIS, OFFICE OF DIVERSITY

President-Elect Amber Salvadras announced that Vice Provost Dereck Rovaris asked to speak to the full Senate today. Dr. Rovaris thanked the Staff Senate for the chance to give the group some updates today.

He mentioned the newly released news article that was published by USA Today involving sexual assault on campus. From the administration point of view, they are sickened and appalled by these allegations. Although the article content had a lot of inaccuracies, there were pieces that were incomplete due to FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) regulations which could not be said. There are some egregious things that have happened on campus. The administration is working on this and there will be changes for improvement that needs to happen. We have a lot of work ahead of us and if anyone wants to help, there are plenty of ways to get involved.

There will be more information that may come out and the university will respond. This is not being taken lightly.

There has been a lot of progress on the Roadmap to Diversity. They have been developing this roadmap last August and they have been implementing it since July. They have over 200 initiatives mentioned and many employees are working towards those. There is also training being offered which he encouraged everyone to take part of.

This work will continue with a focus on identifying deliverables and implementing actions in a timely manner. He is confident this work will help strengthen LSU and create a more inclusive and equitable environment on our campus.

President-Elect Amber Salvadras thanked Dr. Rovaris for speaking and sharing those updates today.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President-Elect Amber Salvadras announced the President Jonathan Levesque will give his November President's Report during the December General Meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Engagement

The Community Engagement Committee met on November 13. They are currently doing a treasure hunt on campus through social media. There is also a plan to recruit more classified staff as members of the Staff Senate. He asked committee members to submit two names of staff members to recruit to vacant positions. They may also need volunteers for commencement.

Long Range Review and Planning

The Long Range Review and Planning Committee met on November 4 and 17. The report was included in the meeting packet for review. They are reviewing the Strategic Plan to update. A SWOT analysis was conducted which is helpful.

SPECIAL AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff Appreciation

The Staff Appreciation Committee met on October 29. The report was included in the meeting packet for review. They are gearing up for the Holiday Box Decorating Contest. If there is someone on campus who has gone above and beyond and should be recognized, please let Amber know. About 175 employees have been appreciated which has gone really well.

The committee is also working on a Recognizing YOU program/Staff Award program which will be a quarterly award. They discussed given out 3 awards per quarter (12 per calendar year). The Committee is working on a creative name for the award, such as Staff Stripes, or something with the word "tiger." The Committee is creating a nomination form. No self-nominations will be accepted. There will be a certificate along with something tangible. The committee is working to choose a nicer item that will be dedicated to this program with the LSU Staff logo.

LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate met on November 16. The report was included in the meeting packet for review.

Organizational Relief Fund

The Organizational Relief Fund Committee met on October 20. The report was included in the meeting packet for review.

Senator Darcee Olson announced that the Accessibility Committee has met and will meet again in December. Current discussion is evaluating accessibility to the buildings on campus.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff Senate Budget

Treasurer Catherine Herman provided a brief written financial report in the meeting packet for review by the full Senate.

The Staff Senate Gift Fund is in need of contributions. This fund was implemented to recognize certain events for Senators and former Senators that may happen throughout the year. The guidelines for giving were mentioned, and Senators were asked to donate \$20 each to the fund for the year.

Staff Senate Apparel

Orders are still open and are being taken for Senators to order Staff Senate apparel.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator Resignation

Lindsey Holstein with LSU Facility Services has been employed at LSU since February 2018. She recently completed her Masters of Business Administration Degree from LSU Shreveport.

She has accepted a position with Ochsner as their new Capital Project Manager. Her last day at LSU will be November 29, 2020.

The LSU Staff Senate thanks her for her service and wishes her well.

Constitutional Amendment for Caucus Membership

President-Elect Amber Salavadras announced that the drafted amendments to the Constitution to reflect the change for the appointed caucus seats on the Staff Senate will go to the full Senate for an electronic vote. A copy was included in the meeting packet for review.

Senator Nicole Roth has not received any feedback or edits but if you see anything before the vote goes out, please let her know.

Future Guest Speakers

Please submit any suggestions for future guest speakers to the Staff Senate Executive Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Senator Birthday

Staff Senator November birthday:

- Senator Darcee Olson celebrated her birthday on November 4.
- Senator Haley Shows celebrated her birthday on November 7.
- Senator Ali Marrero celebrated her birthday on November 16.
- Senator Megan Stone celebrated her birthday on November 17.

Happy Birthday!

Past-President Rachel Henry announced that the LSU Foundation Outstanding Staff Award Nominations are open until November 30. This is a great opportunity to highlight a staff member on campus. There is also a financial component to this award for being recognized as well.

Past-President Rachel Henry announced that the LSU Student Union Spring Registration is now open and will be strictly following the university's guidelines with regards to Covid. If there are any questions, please contact Rachel Henry.

Senator Sarah Salesneves announced that she is expecting another little girl in March 2021.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – With there being no more business, Member-at-Large Alyssa Kimmell made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Senator Madison Lane, carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Jessica Aslin, Secretary

JA/mm