

# UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE

## STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2022

The Staff Senate of the University of Louisville held its regular meeting on October 11, 2022 on the TEAMS platform, Chair John Smith, presiding.

### **VOTING MEMBERS REGISTERING ATTENDANCE**

**A&S:** Cynthia Houchens, Rebecca Ledford, Jason Sievers, Jami Vance **ATHLETICS:** Angela Cox, Blake LeBlanc, Alyssa Murphy, Byron Terry **BUSINESS:** Shannon Jenkins, Kayla Miller **COO:** Shirin Bolhari, Bobbi Carlton, Donna Hardesty, Mike Materna, Kim Noltemeyer, Trey Seibert, Jennifer Steier, Dennis Thomas, Patti Williams **DENTISTRY:** Bonnie Dean, Pleshette DePriest, Tessa McGilbra, Ashley O'Neil, Lisa Sirles **EDUCATION:** Barbara Bishop, Janet Olson, Julie Thum **ERM:** Kenneth Allen **HUMAN RESOURCES:** Christina Reed **LIBRARIES:** Alice Abbott-Moore, Donald Dean **MEDICINE:** Jason Beare, Michelle Blessett, Martin Brown, Charles Carter, Tanya Croslin, Kristen Darnell, Kathleen Elsherif, Lisa Floore, Kent Gardner, Melissa Garrett, Jennifer Hall, Theora Hudson, Skip Hurley, Deborah Kalbfleisch, Ruby Keith, Victoria King, Stephanie Kittle, Kimberly Laun, Katherine Linzy, Kelly Moore, Whitney Rogers, Brenda Sexton, Andrew Weinberger, David Young, Lihua Zhang **MUSIC:** Christopher Dye **NURSING:** Megan Johnson **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Rachel Quick **PRESIDENT'S OFFICE:** Carcyle Barrett, Leondra Gully **PROVOST'S OFFICE:** Will Adamchik, Bryn Bidwell, Tim Dill, Erica Gabbard, Linda Leake, Kevin Ledford, John Morgan, Becky Patterson, John Whitney, Mark Woolwine **SPEED:** Kari Donahue, Brendan Stivers, Mani Vangalur **VPCE:** Patrick Smith **VPF:** Hayley Eisenberg **VPHA:** Rajvi Parikh, Bill Tuttle **VPR:** Dave Funk, Angela Lewis-Klein **VPSA:** Heather Gentry, Katherine Halbleib, John Smith **VPUA:** Nakia Strickland

### **GUESTS REGISTERING ATTENDANCE**

**INTERIM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:** DR. LORI GONZALEZ

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & EQUITY:** MR. LEE GILL

**PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR/BOARD TRUSTEE:** DR. RAYMOND BURSE

**FACULTY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE:** PROFESSOR TIFFNEY GIPSON-GOODWIN

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE:** MR. ALEX REYNOLDS

**UofL TODAY:** Mr. Chris Wooton

### **OTHERS REGISTERING ATTENDANCE**

Kari Aikins, Shari Barnes, Beverly Daley, Leslie Dadisman, Kristina Doan, Emily Doolittle, Sam Fowler, Tamara Iacono, Sarah Jump, Jessie Murnock, Eric Nunn, Heather Turner, Carey Werley, Andrea Wilson, Candyce Woodall, Carol Zehnder

### **VOTING MEMBERS NOT REGISTERING ATTENDANCE**

**ATHLETICS:** Cassandra Mattingly, Daniel Morrissey **COO:** Phillip Carswell, Denise Hand, Kristin Roberts **DENTISTRY:** Jody Carroll, Connie Martinez, Faith Yount **EDUCATION:** Heidi Cooley-Cook **MEDICINE:** Tony Simms **PROVOST'S OFFICE:** Virginia Hosono **SPEED:** Betty Nunn **VPUA:** Asma Addarrat-Edwards

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

### **ACTION ITEM: Approval of [September minutes](#) - John Smith**

The September minutes were approved as distributed and are linked above.

### **REPORT: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Lee Gill**

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Since his arrival in May, Mr. Gill reported he has met with deans and chairs across the units. From those discussions, he concluded that the university needs a broader infrastructure for diversity, equity and inclusion. He sees a need to bring all the campuses closer and focus more strategically on vision as well as initiatives around DEI. Mr. Gill said with the assets that UofL has, he can envision building a platform to surround the Pell-eligible and first generation students with the support services they need to see their way to graduation. His office has hired additional staff to be able to implement the DEI initiatives. Personnel changes in the DEI Office include the following promotions: Diana Whitlock, to Assistant Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Marian Vasser to Assistant Vice President for Education and Training; and Leondra Gully to Executive Director of the Cultural & Equity Center. Other personnel changes will include the hiring of a grant writer, a Director of Projects and Communications and a Director of Assessments. Assessment is a way to show the initiatives that are made possible through grants and funding are progressing as intended. The University of Louisville is one of the top R1 universities and we want it to be one of the top schools in the nation for diversity, equity and inclusion.

**Question:** How can we, as the Staff Senate and as individual, get involved?

**Reply:** I'm an idea person and like to hear the voice of the campus. I would love that opportunity to say to all the Staff Senate, I would like to hear their voices. I would like to hear their ideas. We're not coming in here to do the same old, same old. I have been doing this for a little while. I think I have some good ideas about what can really drive change across campus is listening to people like yourselves. I would like for you to feel as though you can reach out to me. Another way to help is when hiring for a position I would like for you to tell your friends about it. I would like for you to work with your networks. I would like for you to reach out and tell people the University of Louisville is a great place to work. I would like for you all to put on your recruiting shoes and help us recruit more individuals of diverse social and ethnic backgrounds.

### **UPDATE: Open Enrollment – Kari Aikins**

Ms. Aikins reminded senators that open enrollment will close this Friday, October 14. There have been communications sent out and announcements in *UofL Today* every day. Employees who participate in flexible spending accounts (FSA), must reenroll every single year. Reminders to reenroll this year are being sent out today to people who had flexible spending accounts last year. The [open enrollment](#) page has all the information about the benefits. If needed, you can e-mail [benefits@louisville.edu](mailto:benefits@louisville.edu) and any one of our benefits specialists will help you out.

### **REPORT: University Update - Lori Gonzalez**

Dr. Gonzalez highlighted activities that have recently taken place across the university.

***Courier-Journal* Photo Collection** – The Bingham family recently donated all the *Courier-Journal* photographs from the 1937 flood up through about the mid-90s. It is worth millions of dollars and, beyond the money, it is the story of Kentucky and the region and beyond. In terms of donations, this was a very big coup for the university. Also, the Bingham sisters donated to improve the cold room storage for photographs.

**New Residence Halls** – The two newest dorms housing mostly freshmen are named Village North and Village South. That area of Belknap, close to the Student Activities Center is known as the Village. We like the notion of a village where students could come together and build community. A couple of weeks ago the Denny Crum Residence Hall on Eastern Parkway was dedicated for student athletes and sports administration students.

**[Center for Engaged Learning](#)** – On October 18<sup>th</sup>, there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new center located on the first floor of the new residence hall across from the SAC. Students will take their classroom lessons and put them to real-life experiences.

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**Dean Searches** – The search for the deans of Arts & Sciences and the Kent School are at different stages, but are progressing.

**Strategic Plan** – As you recall, the pillars of the plan were a great place to *learn, work* and *invest*. After some discussion, we added *discover*, since we are an R1 institution. Then, we changed *invest* to *connect*, as it feels more like a reciprocal relationship. The full plan will be coming out in January.

**Community Projects** – Formerly known as government earmarks, Congressman John Yarmuth helped UofL secure \$750K from the Department of Education for the Speed School robotics program to teach high school students about robotics and STEM.

**UofL Health** – UofL Health has partnered with Central High School on a Pre-Medical Magnet for students interested in a medical career.

**UofL Hospital** – A \$144M expansion is taking place at UofL Hospital.

**Cardiovascular Innovation Institute** – A recent ribbon-cutting opened the state's sole heart-only hospital. UofL will be a leader in cardiovascular disease and treatment.

**Athletics** - Our volleyball team is currently ranked #2, field hockey is #7 in the country, and men's soccer is #15. It is nice to take a moment to look at those non-revenue sports because this time of year, most focus on football. Those are really good accomplishments for our athletics program.

**New Speed Building** - Plans are underway for our engineering building. The state legislature gave us \$65M for that building and we will raise \$10M for the much needed building.

**Military Students** – Renovation has begun for a military-connected student center. The state gave us \$600K in this budget and that will be a kind of a one stop shop for our military connected students.

**Campus Updates** – There will be two campus update meetings this fall. The first is October 13th and the 2nd is November 30. You will hear from Mary Elizabeth Miles, Lee Gill, Jerry Bradley, Kevin Gardner and I'll give a few updates. The meeting will be online or in person.

### **REPORT: Hybrid Option - John Smith**

Chair Smith reported he is looking into meeting rooms that would be conducive to hybrid meetings.

### **REPORT: Presidential Search - Raymond Burse**

Dr. Burse reported that the presidential search is progressing since the end of April. The search committee has held the campus listening sessions with a variety of constituent groups. A leadership profile was developed and it went on the market in late June. In seeking candidates, we posted ads in several publications and strategic places and the search firm, WittKiefer, reached out to individuals in their database to drive them to our site. The priority date for application was September first. When we started reviewing applications shortly thereafter we had over 60 applicants. Of those sixty applicants, eleven are sitting presidents of other institutions. There are 13 members of the search committee. Nine of them are board trustees, including the student, staff and the faculty trustees. We added an additional staff person, additional faculty member and a person from the community and a representative from the Health Sciences Center.

### **REPORT: [Staff Senate Chair](#) - John Smith**

This report is linked above.

### **REPORT: [Vice Chair Report](#) - Kevin Ledford**

This report is linked above.

### **REPORT: [Staff Senate Secretary-Treasurer](#) - Carcyle Barrett**

This report is linked above.

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### **REPORT: Faculty Senate Representative - Tiffney Gipson-Goodwin**

This report is linked above.

### **REPORT: Student Government Update - Alex Reynolds**

Mr. Reynolds reported on a couple of upcoming activities sponsored by the SGA as part of its mission to rebuild the campus community post COVID. Tomorrow, there will be a cookout in the Bingham Humanities Quad from 11-1. On October 29, when UofL faces Wake Forest at Cardinal Stadium, the SGA will hold its first tailgate. The SGA is currently working on bringing back the planetarium to campus and advocating for that in some capacity because it's been closed to the student body and the public since COVID.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Committee on Anti-Racism Efforts (CARE) - Leondra Gully**
  - This committee had no report.
- **Credentials and Nominations (C&N) - Jennifer Steier**
  - This committee had no report.
- **Policies and Economic Development (PED) – Martin Brown**
  - The committee met and plan to continue to pursue our goals related to improving the relationship between staff and the university and help improve staff life overall. Please contact us if you have ideas for initiatives that will improve the lives of staff.
- **Services and Facilities (S&F) - Mark Woolwine**
  - This committee met last week. We did not have a full committee, so we chatted about some of the current issues we have discussed. The topic that keeps coming up with our committee is scooters and scooter parking. We discussed to reach out to the SGA and develop some sort of student education on this subject.
  - This report is linked above.
- **Staff Grievance Committee (SGC) - Theora Hudson**
  - No new grievances have been filed since last month.
  - This report is linked above.
- **Staff Help and Relief Effort (SHARE) - Kari Donahue**
  - The committee met earlier today and made an award for \$3401.56.
  - This report is linked above.
- **Staff Morale and Engagement (SME) - Skip Hurley**
  - This committee will meet on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **OTHER REPORTS**

- **Bookstore Advisory Committee** - Barbara Bishop
  - This report is linked above.
- **Human Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC)** - Patti Williams
  - This report is linked above.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

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### **NEW BUSINESS**

Senator Hayley Eisenberg brought up a parking issue on HSC. This led to a discussion on the many issues with parking that staff encounter on both campuses.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gretchen Henry  
Senate Coordinator