

# UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE

## STAFF SENATE MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: February 8, 2022

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Microsoft Teams

[LINK TO THE FULL VIDEO RECORDING.](#)

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

The December minutes were approved and are linked above.

### **REPORT: Acting University President - Lori Gonzalez**

Dr. Gonzalez reported on several topics.

**Foundation** - The foundation investments did really well this year with a 33% return. This allows the foundation to increase the spend to the units. The spend is the amount interest earned off the endowment. Now there's more money and that means any unit that has an endowed fund will get more money in that fund. The reason that's important for us is if units know that they can rely on that spend every year they can take costs that they're putting on our general fund dollars, which are recurring dollars, and they can pay for things with the endowment funds. This will free up general fund for other things.

**Pay Increase** – Though enrollment is slightly down, our finances have improved over the past few years, we can offer the 1% salary increase as of March 1, 2022.

**Search – Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** – This search is nearing its conclusion and an announcement will be made very soon.

**State Budget** – Two weeks ago, Dr. Gonzalez spoke with the state House Budget Review Committee for post-secondary education about asset preservation, capital projects and Bucks for Brains. The Bucks for Brains is a program that matches state funds dollar for dollar, to any dollar amount that a donor puts in for an endowed professorship. We are not sure what the state senate budget will be, but the fact that higher education is a topic of conversation is a good sign.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:43

### **REPORT: Employee Success Center - Brian Buford**

Mr. Buford reported on news from the Employee Success Center.

**Staff Recognition** – An in-person event was recently held to celebrate staff who had worked at UofL for over 4000 years of service in total. These events will now be held twice each year.

The employee recognition awards will now be called the [Employee Excellence Awards](#). A new staff award for 2022 is the [George J. Howe Award](#).

**Onboarding New Employees**- Onboarding started in January and it's going well. It is in person, which gives us the opportunity to really welcome and bring people in. We have the time and the space to talk about what it's like to work at a university, what our culture is, what our values are. We make sure that every person gets a parking permit and a cardinal ID card, we take them on a tour of the Belknap campus and help them sign up for a Health Sciences center tour. Then, we have lunch with them at the University Club. [Follow this link for more onboarding information.](#)

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 28:48

**REPORT: Board of Trustees Listening Session - Mary Nixon, Raymond Burse**

Ms. Nixon started the conversation with the presidential search. The process itself has not been formally kicked off. We are in the early stages of deciding what the process will be. We're not going to make any significant decisions until we get the national search firm on board. So that is our first step in this process. Other decisions in terms of who will be involved will be on the search committee, how the process will unfold and all of that is on pause until we get a search firm selected. Work on the RFP is being done with the general counsel and procurement to get that finalized and get that out so that we can get the search firm onboard. This is an informal step in the process to take questions from you all, understand what you're concerned about and take any suggestions that you have. Mr. Burse said he did not have anything to add to what Mary said. I think the that describes where we are. Hopefully once the search firm is on board will be able to refine more with specifics in terms of where we are and how we go forward.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 57:33

**REPORT: Staff Senate Chair - John Smith**

This report will be posted.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at

**REPORT: Staff Senate Vice Chair - Andrew Grubb**

This report is online and linked above.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:28:23

**REPORT: Staff Senate Secretary-Treasurer - Kevin Ledford**

This report is online and linked above.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:30:07

**REPORT: Faculty Senate Representative - Tim Roberts**

This report is online and linked above.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:31:33

**REPORT: Student Government Update - Elijah Cooper**

No report was made.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Committee on Anti-Racism Efforts (CARE) - Leondra Gully**
  - No report was made.
- **[Credentials and Nominations \(C&N\)](#) - Jennifer Steier**
  - This report is online and linked above.
  - To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:34:05
- **Policies and Economic Development (PED) - Virginia Hosono**
  - To hear this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:35:06
- **[Services and Facilities \(S&F\)](#) - Paul Eitel**
  - This report is online and linked above.
  - To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time 1:36:46

- [Staff Grievance Committee \(SGC\)](#) - Jason Beare
  - This report is online and linked above.
- **Staff Help and Relief Effort (SHARE)** - Kari Donahue
  - To hear this report, [please go to the video](#) at time **1:38:41**
- [Staff Morale and Engagement \(SME\)](#) - Melissa Taylor
  - This report is online and linked above.
  - To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time **1:39:48**

#### **OTHER REPORTS**

- [Human Resources Advisory Committee \(HRAC\)](#) - Patti Williams
  - **Get Healthy Now Points** - You can now start earning your points towards your \$40 health incentive. You don't have to wait towards the end of the year so you know as you go get a physical or whatever. Just go online, add that into the system.
  - **COVID-19 Testing Kits** - You can go to your drug store and use your Anthem ID card and it'll ring up as \$0.00.
  - **W2 Tax Forms** - If you need a copy of your W2, you can go to ULink and print those off. Go under payroll to see your W2.
  - To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at time **1:42:41**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 P.M.