

East Tennessee State University

Staff Senate

Meeting Agenda

Date: August 10, 2026

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Culp Center 311, The Forum

Facilitator: Cody Morelock, Staff Senate President

Scribe: William Cate, Staff Senate Secretary

Agenda Overview

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of Guests
 - a. Melissa Nipper and Amerrica Duggan-Torbert
3. Approval of Previous Minutes
 - a. [July](#) Approvals
4. Information Items
 - a. President's Report
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - c. Committee Updates
5. Old Business & Follow Ups
6. New Business
 - a. Senate Executive Committee Nominations
7. Announcements, *What is on your mind?*
8. Adjourn

East Tennessee State University

Staff Senate

Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2026

2:30 p.m. - 3:28 p.m.

1. Call to Order

President Morelock called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Due to inclement weather, a Zoom link was provided for folks unable to travel to the Culp Center.

2. Introduction of Guests

Dr. Levesque introduced Dr. Van Wie, the director of the new one-stop shop called *Buc Central*, which aims to consolidate front-facing financial aid, bursar, and registrar services in the Culp Center. Dr. Levesque explained that while the original goal was to open Buc Central in August 2026, the timeline has been pushed to early November 2026 due to construction and redesigning of spaces, including moving the Welcome Center to the bookstore.

Dr. Van Wie presented the existing plans for Buc Central, a new one-stop student services center combining front-facing functions from the bursar, financial aid, and registrar offices. Buc Central aims to streamline services, improve student satisfaction, and handle tasks like account balances, payments, and general questions across all undergraduate and graduate students. The center is scheduled to open in November 2026, with initial staffing including cross-trained financial aid counselors, a registrar staff member, and a new cashier position, while existing offices will continue operations during a transitional period. Dr. Van Wie emphasized that more complex tasks will be referred to specialized staff in each area represented in Buc Central.

Buc Central will have extended hours and virtual capabilities, with plans to eventually direct all student communications to a centralized Buc Central email address.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

President Morelock presented the June minutes for consideration. No corrections were needed. Due to audio issues on Zoom, Senators Murphy (virtual) and Sells made motions to approve the June minutes, and the motions were seconded by both Vice President Albarado and Senator Ferrell (virtual). The motions carried, and the June minutes were approved.

4. Information Items

President's Report

President Morelock provided updates from University Council -

[Agenda Overview](#)

Staff Senate
August 10, 2026

East Tennessee State University

Staff Senate

- Faculty Senate President, Dr. Stevens, reported the Faculty Handbook was removed from the Faculty Senate webpage for revisions to updated with new adopted policies. The Faculty Handbook should be available in a few months.
- Dr. Sanders shared that the NCAA changed guidelines to allow athletes 5 years of eligibility to play competitively. Athletics is investigating how this change impacts international student-athletes due to visa restrictions, etc.
- ITS reported a testing phase for uploading grades from D2L directly to Banner.

Treasurer's Report

President Morelock provided an update on the Staff Senate account balances at the end of FY26. The FY26 total spend was \$16,735.69, leaving \$1,000 available spend.

Committee Updates

President Morelock and Vice President Albarado met with Assistant Vice President Andrea Yangeo to discuss new partnerships between Staff Senate and the Office of Human Resources.

Senator Fulkerson reported on the Staff Concerns Committee's work addressing accessibility concerns, including plans to improve signage and utilize a golf cart equipped to support different needs. The committee is partnering with various campus departments to address these concerns.

Senator Joseph-Thomas announced that the staff senate election would be released on Wednesday, with competitive races in EOC positions 1, 3, 4, and 6. Elections for Executive Committee will be held in August.

5. Old Business & Follow Ups

None.

6. New Business

None.

7. Announcements, *What is on your mind?*

Senator Sells announced the new ETSU Parking app. The app supports the campus community locate parking, navigate to available parking, and manage

East Tennessee State University

Staff Senate

parking permits.

8. Adjourn

Senator Strauss made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Senator Siddell. The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

East Tennessee State University Staff Senate

Supporting Documents & Reminders