

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2025 2:34 p.m. – 3:28 p.m.

I. Call to Order

President David Finney called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. in Culp Center Room 311.

II. Attendance

Members present: Kari Albarado, William Cate, Rachel Colwell, Jennifer Crigger, O.J. Early, David Finney, Cody Greene, Wendy Guinn, Cody Henson, Suzy Hooven, Ethan Hutchison, Rachel Kellogg, James Lively, Jenny Lockmiller, Candy Massey, Crystal Maupin, Skylar Moore, Cody Morelock, Donna Nelson-Barnes, Ryan Parvin, Melanie Peters, Debbie Roach, Katie Sellers, Brayton Siddell, Jr., Aneida Skeens, Amy Slaughter, Ben Smith, Jessimine Strauss, Elizabeth Thomas-Joseph.

Members absent: Joe Bidwell, Dan Bishop, Vanessa Canter (excused), Kimberly Ferrell, Joy Fulkerson (excused), Brooke Garland, Stefanie Murphy (excused), Jeremy Watson.

III. Minutes

President Finney presented the March meeting minutes for consideration, clarifying details provided and noting minor edits to the final minutes. Senator Lively made motion to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Senator Strauss. The motion carried, and the minutes were approved.

IV. Guest Speaker

President Finney introduced guest speaker, Desmond Pierce, Executive Director of Annual Giving for University Advancement. Mr. Pierce presented to the Staff Senate regarding the upcoming annual giving campaign, Forever ETSU and provided details of this initiative, including a highlight of various challenges to increase philanthropic participation among faculty, staff, students, and the community. All senators were invited and encouraged to participate and to share information with their units.

V. Treasurer's Report

President Finney provided the Treasurer's Report of current financials in Treasurer Canter's absence. There was no discussion.

VI. President's Report



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President Finney shared the following updates from recent University Council and Executive Committee meetings:

- SLE presented at University Council an initiative to reach enrollment of 15,500 students by 2030 and plans to promote student retention and success.
- SLE leadership met with the Executive Committee to review upcoming updates to organizational structure and services following the recent federal administration changes. While there are changes to titles, positions, and structure, there were assurances that no staff are being terminated and no negative salary changes will occur as ETSU makes changes necessary for compliance. SLE leadership expected a formal announcement to go out to campus in the coming week. There was some discussion among the Senate about the expected changes.
- The next Staff Senate Listening Circle will be April 23, 2025 via Zoom.

VII. Committee Reports

President Finney opened the floor for Committee Reports.

- 1. President Finney will send an announcement out tomorrow to campus about the May Staff Celebration with the theme, Pirates.
- 2. The Awards Committee has received a number of nominations so far for the various awards and noted that more nominations from EEOC5 are needed. Senator Hutchinson suggested that another reminder email to campus be shared ahead of the nomination deadline.
- 3. President Finney announced that the position of Chair of Staff Senate Concerns Committee is vacant with Kathi Horne's recent relinquishment of her Senate seat after taking a new position in QCOM. He called for interest in this Chair role and noted that Senate vacancies will be filled by the Elections Committee.
- 4. President Finney also announced that all Senators will need to help with soliciting donations for the Staff Celebration event with more information to follow.

No other committee reports were requested.

VIII. Old Business

None



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IX. New Business

None

X. Announcements

- President Finney announced that the staff market equity increase is expected to go into effect in May 2025, and he committed to seeking additional details during the Executive Committee meeting with Dr. Noland.
- President Finney announced that the Ombuds proposal for staff is moving forward with updates to the website and communication to campus to follow.

XI. Adjournment

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