



NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

STAFF SENATE MEETING: OCTOBER 10, 2001

APPROVED MINUTES

Reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee on October 24, 2001

Visit the Staff Senate Web Site at:
www.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndsu/staff_senate/index.htm

Full Staff Senate meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
The Executive Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Staff Senate Meetings:

October 10, 2001:	9:30–10:30 a.m.	Prairie Rose Room, Memorial Union
November 14, 2001:	9:30–10:30 a.m.	Prairie Rose Room, Memorial Union
December 12, 2001:	9:30–10:30 a.m.	Prairie Rose Room, Memorial

Upcoming Executive Committee Meetings:

October 24, 2001:	9:30–10:30 a.m.	Badlands (365), Memorial Union
November 28, 2001:	9:30–10:30 a.m.	Badlands (365), Memorial Union
December 26, 2001:	9:30–10:30 a.m.	Badlands (365), Memorial Union

All broadbanded staff are encouraged to attend.



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1. **Meeting called to order:** Jane Lessard called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Substitutions: Alan Stevens for Kathy Enger, Carolyn Flink for Darlene Jenson, Pam Nielsen for Sharon Fangsrud, Tara Anderson for Gina Haugen, and Jackie Schluchter for Rhonda Kitch.

Lori Olson replaces Jean Lopez on Staff Senate Today we have guests from the educational law class.

2. **Review and approval of the Staff Senate Minutes from May 9, 2001:** No additions or corrections were noted.

3. **Treasurer's Report** (Mike Schanzenbach):

Fund 1725:.....\$2,743.692

Fund 3746:.....\$1,410.00

4. **Program:** Chris Runge was the substitute speaker for Wayne McKelvey.

Wayne McKelvey has accepted a different position with NDPEA as the director for NDPEA's Federation of Teachers, which is directly related to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Chris Runge has been with NDPEA for six years, among other positions with the state, Chris has worked under Heidi Heitkamp and has been a public employee for 16 years.

Chris gave us an update on recent events: The ND Board of Higher Ed has been working on an executive compensation package for university presidents.

Health insurance premiums will probably be an issue again for state employees at the next legislative session. Dental and vision could also be addressed at that time.

Chris explained that the North Dakota legislature is very conservative and it's been difficult to make them understand that state employees and faculty have been under paid in the past and are still being under paid.

The next session will most likely take another look at state employees leaving the main retirement system and allowing them to invest with outside plans. Chris pointed out that those employees who have left the state retirement system have lost money on their investments compared to those who have stayed with the system.

There are currently 1800 active members and 1100 retired members with NDPEA.



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5. Executive Senate Committee Reports:

5.1 Ad Hoc:

Hiring The diverse committee held their first meeting to discuss the topic of internal hiring versus external hiring time frames and qualifications. They are going to compile lists of similarities and differences that exist between how private and state hire.

5.2 Standing:

By-laws (Nem Schlecht) No report.

Election (Allyn Kostecki) No report.

Legislative (Janna Mausolf Stoskopf for Janine Trowbridge): No report except to ask committee members to stay after to set a time for the next meeting.

Program (Kim Lammers): Next month Kara Stack from MU Breaks will speak to us.

Public Relations (Peggy Cossette): Ludvik Herrera was nominated for a Kampus Kudos for his service to the University. "He is a skilled web designer, a competent communicator and a truly pleasant person to work with."

Also, there was presented that the Kampus Kudos nominations could be done through the Senate's web page.

Scholarship (Valerie Larson): No report.

Staff Development and Small Grant (Barb Welk): October 1st we helped Multicultural Student Services, International Programs and MU Live sponsored Michael Nejman who spoke on "Culture, the Oppression continuum, and the 'ISMS'; a discussion of oppression and discrimination in society and the workplace." Staff Senate's contribution - \$500 plus \$20 for flyers.

November 6th the lunchbox speaker will be from the Village – "Increasing Your Tolerance for Chaos". Future speakers and activities:

December - Sister Rosalind Gefre's School of Massage

January – Exercise program "That 70's Program" "Grooviest health incentive program ever"

February – Financial Mgmt. Speaker – The Village

March – Val Farmer "Family Relationships"



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April – Sister Rosalind Gefre’s School of Massage

Executive (Jane Lessard) No report

5.3 University Senate Committees

Campus Space & Facilities (Randy Hittman) A motion was passed for the general location of the new residence hall north of the Wellness Center. The hall should be completed by the fall of 2003; at that time there will be a request to add another hall in the same area.

There was a request to provide the committee with more information concerning the location and how it may effect traffic/pedestrian safety concerns.

It was mentioned that it might be a good idea to bring the 1890’s gothic theme that has been started at the gate on university drive and 12th avenue and continue that theme across the campus.

Computer Planning & Goals (Steve Kapaun) No report.

University Athletics (Barb Binde): No report.

Library (Alan Stevens for Kathy Enger) Renovations on the downstairs area are complete. The Publication Services office, student study space, study rooms, and newspapers are all located on the lower level. The space is inviting, open, and light, please take the opportunity to stop by and see it during the Open House on Friday, October 19th.

The Mac computer cluster is already downstairs and the remaining clusters will be moving down later in the semester.

The microforms area, on the upper level downstairs, is open and over the next month will be receiving more microfiche and microfilm.

The Center for Writers is moving downstairs and is located at the base of the main staircase.

Construction continues outside on the south end of the library. A retaining wall, backflow valves, and drains are being constructed to ensure proper drainage and protection from any future water damage.

There are new displays recognizing donated collections. “It’s About People” is one of the themes.

A new sculpture, “The Olive” by sculpture Rick Woodhouse was dedicated on October 9th and will be on display for six months. The sculpture is located near the front entrance.

Executive (Jane Lessard) No report.



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- 6. Council of State Employees – COSE** (Valerie Larson): Board members met at the capital in Bismarck on September 26th. The main discussion was the budget for the COSE newsletter, which has been cut and ways to streamline were being looked at.

Some suggestions were: e-mail w/attachment; US mail for those without access to computers, and the COSE web site; any suggestion would be helpful. Also, if members have any suggestions for articles or ways to improve the newsletter, please contact Valerie Larson at 1-8882 or valerie.larson@ndsu.nodak.edu.

Employee Recognition Week was very successful. Fargo's picnic served approximately 300 people.

COSE is also working on developing a new employee brochure that each agency would include with their new orientation packets.

The next meeting will be November 6th in Minot.

The web site is up and running at: www.state.nd.us/cose. Any suggestions regarding the site can be made to Doug Osowski: douglas.osowski@und.nodak.edu.
- 7. Policy Coordination - PPC** (Nancy Mueller) No report.
- 8. Ex-Officio Comments** (Teri Thorsen): The University System and State Government is meeting with Microsoft Great Plains to assess how closely the MGP product for a new administrative system (Financial, Student and HR/Payroll) meets our needs. The Governor's interest in awarding the project to MGP has generated comments that it's a "done deal". However, it has not been determined what the cost of a development project with MGP will cost compared to a purchase of an already developed product from another vendor. The meetings insure an informed decision can be made before any contract is negotiated.

Teri has been invited to join a subcommittee of the New Economy Initiative. This "Talent Action Team" is charged with developing strategies for recruiting and retaining workers to stay in North Dakota. At the meeting last week, over three dozen strategies were identified. The strategy to "stop taking pride in being a low wage state", the strategy Terri volunteered to work, is in the top five initiatives of the group.
- 9. Old Business - None**
- 10. New Business and announcements** – According to Gary Narum the name for the health facility is The Wellness Center instead of Health and



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Wellness Center. Staff and faculty cost to use the facility is \$20. Rod Cody and Tracy Ekeren are the representatives to the Wellness Center's advisory board.

November 21st Chancellor Isaac would like to meet with Staff Senate in an open forum from 10:45 AM to 11:45 AM.

There are 96 cookbooks and 30 mugs available. After some discussion as to what could be done with them. It was decided that at the November Staff Senate meeting all the Senators could choose one, either a mug or a cookbook.

11. **Other** – Allyn Kostecki was presented with a plaque and gavel for his service as last year's president of Staff Senate. Allyn also received a Kampus Kudos.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Candy Skauge, Secretary

