

## Minutes

Wednesday, December 2nd, 2020

ZOOM

- I. **Call to Order by Latterell at 9:31**
- II. **Attendance Report** by Amanda Reil – 41 present, 5 absent, 1 excused. 63 total attendees counting guests.
- III. **Consent Agenda** – ([https://www.ndsu.edu/policy/senate\\_coordinating\\_council/](https://www.ndsu.edu/policy/senate_coordinating_council/))
  - A. **Policy 515**
  - B. Motion to approve the consent agenda by Leach/Young. Motion Passed.
- IV. **Approval of Meeting Agenda** – Agenda adopted as written.
- V. **Campus Kudos – Dan Nygard** - Terri Porter, Anne Johnson, Kirsten Boettcher, Janet Sundquist, Jeffrey Kittilson, Michele Sherman, Naomi Marks, Melissa Lamp, Patty Dirk, and Milka Singha were all awarded kudos.
- VI. **Speaker Heather Keeler** – Land acknowledgements and Native culture integration on campus were discussed in the presentation. There are 574 federally recognized tribes and 23 tribes in the tri state area. 1% of US population is Indigenous. A year ago President Bresciani initiated a taskforce to develop a land acknowledgement and educational opportunities surrounding it for NDSU.

The acknowledgement is as follows:

We collectively acknowledge that we gather at NDSU, a land grant institution, on the traditional lands of the Oceti Sakowin (Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda) and Anishinaabe Peoples in addition to many diverse Indigenous Peoples still connected to these lands. We honor with gratitude Mother Earth and the Indigenous Peoples who have walked with her throughout generations. We will continue to learn how to live in unity with Mother Earth and build strong, mutually beneficial, trusting relationships with Indigenous Peoples of our region.
- VII. **Student Government Report** – None.
- VIII. **Faculty Senate Report** – None.
- IX. **Approval of Wednesday, November 4th, 2020 Staff Senate Meeting Minutes** –

Motion by Leach/Reil to adopt the minutes as written. Motion passed.
- X. **Treasurer’s Report** by Tina Exner – \$1296.53 appropriated, \$6213.26 local, \$116.38 scholarship
- XI. **Advisor Comments** by John Woolsey – A exception to the leave policy is being considered on Dec 17 by the State Board of Higher Education. This would not provide exceptions to the 240 hour rule, but will waive the requirement to use 40 hours of leave. Kristina Astrup has been leading 360 Leadership opportunity, which will be concluding soon. Planning is happening for an activity next semester. ND has high rate of COVID and CARES leave requests mirror that – currently 4-5 per day. The CARES act is currently set to expire at end of month but there may be Legislative action to extend that. Problems have occurred nationally and at NDSU with unemployment fraud. It has currently been sent by mail to both HR and the employee and is thus not gaining much traction.
- XII. **Public Relations Officer Report** by Olivia Scott – Kate Nelson DeShaw is back on campus and she will be transitioning back to the Public Relations role.
- XIII. **Committee Reports**
  - A. Elections by Elizabeth Cronin - Recruitment strategy in progress for January
  - B. Legislative and Bylaws by Jeremy Kopp – No Report.
  - C. Information Technology by Ben Bernard – No Report.
  - D. Scholarship by Kay Hopkins – No Report.
  - E. Staff Development by Cora Crane – The speaker at our next meeting will present research on the experiences of student of color.
  - F. Staff Recognition by Dan Nygard – We have announced our November awardee on Facebook, please like that post if you see it. Another large batch of Kudos is coming for January.
  - G. Campus Engagement by Wendy Leach –A blood drive has been organize and all slots are filled.
  - H. Gunkelman Award by Megan Ramsett – No Report.
  - I. Environmental Sustainability by Carin Engler – We have bins for recycling string lights placed in the

Memorial Union and at Residence Life. They will be out until January 8<sup>th</sup>.

J. Senate Coordinating Council by Margaret Latterell – A meeting was held by email to discuss policy 515.

K. State Staff Senate by April Helgaas- The State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) met on October 29 and discussed the possibility of antigen testing on campus. Governor Burgum will be presenting his budget proposal soon, and the SBHE will wait for that to be public before presenting a proposal of their own. Discussion on extending the tuition waiver across campuses is ongoing. NDSU and UND have voted in support of the change and so a taskforce has been formed to investigate moving forward with this proposal.

L. Joint Committees

1. Campus Space and Facilities by Wendy Leach – No report; will be meeting soon.

2. Library by Alicia LaFerriere – No report; will meet Friday.

3. University Athletics Shiloh Susag – No Report.

4. Learning Space Advisory Committee by Tina Exner – No report; meet on 14<sup>th</sup>.

5. Student Voice Project by Amanda Booher – This month's topic was mental health. The biggest issues that were raised include politics, LGBTQ rights, and the general turmoil in the nation. Mention was made of cultural stigma and high background rates of mental illness also being concerns. The counseling center was recognized for the work they do, but some said they were uncomfortable with Zoom counseling and expressed desire for more options. Students are stressed and Zoom is a mixed influence. A lot of stigma still exists around mental health and there is concern that not all are supportive of LGBTQ issues and worry that not all councilors are supportive of diversity related issues. The Student Voice project is seen as very positive and there is a desire for further support and advocacy. Promotion and support is needed for mental health. There is a desire for spaces to be created for more types of groups and more specific groups for students on campus.

M. Ad Hoc Committees

1. 30<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary by Jenn Young – Masks are in, we are working to set up the Marketplace site. Projected sales point is \$5 per mask, proceeds from sales will go to scholarship.

2. Campus Food Insecurity Taskforce by Carin Engler – The pantry space has been rearranged with Tammy's help. We had a large donation of soups, tuna, chicken and pasta from Youthworks. We are officially able to take donations now, you can drop off items any time the Bookstore is open. Midwest Dairy is donating a fridge and freezer. Once those come in some of the donated money will be used to buy dairy and freezer products. The Child Development Center is hosting a food drive between 12/3 and 12/9 to benefit the pantry. We hope to have a few hours open as a trial run in December. One of these days is 12/15 which will include a couple of hours in both the morning and the afternoon. Watch for a request for specific donations and volunteer times. We have a meeting on 12/7 for the subcommittee for the pantry space and a full task force meeting on 12/9. We hope to have some regular hours starting in January. Thanks for all of your support!

3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee by Jordan DiPalma - We did a paper meeting since the scheduled meeting was the day before a long weekend. Topics included President Bresciani's update on the Gift of Life garden, there will be a meeting soon to learn more about funding and other needs. We were approached by an equity group that is looking at policies concerning children in the workplace. There have been changes to the policy from the intent was to what has been formally pushed out. We would like feedback on those changes.

**XIV. Executive Committee** by Josh Schroetter – We discussed the results from the staff survey, which are still being compiled. In the survey many staff were recognized for their work in response to COVID.

**XV. President's Cabinet** by Elizabeth Cronin – Matt Friedmann reported that he will continue to advocate for students who want an in person experience. Isolation is contributing to mental stress. Student Government is working on a pass/fail option for the semester. Laura Oster-Aaland reminded people of the CARE team which was formed to reach out to students who need extra assistance: they meet weekly and have been very busy. They can be reached through this website: <https://www.ndsu.edu/enrollmentmanagement/bit/>  
The President's cabinet is looking in to reasons for decline in transfer student numbers.

Discussion also touched on the stress we are experiencing as a whole university community. The preliminary results from staff survey were presented. Faculty offered support and coordination for any initiatives that we might develop.

**XVI. Old Business**

**XVII. New Business**

**XVIII. Announcements**

A. Staying on Zoom for all meetings in the next semester. Will be using the same link and format.

B. Hiring of RAs for next year has started, please send students to ResLife website to apply.

**XIX. Adjourn 10:39**

Scheduled meetings:

- Executive Committee: Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 2020, 9:30am by Zoom

- Staff Senate: Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am by Zoom