

# **W** UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON | TACOMA

University of Washington Tacoma Staff Association  
Tuesday, May 10, 1:00pm-2:00pm  
Spring Quarter General Meeting  
Lucien Board Room (GWP 320)

## **Board Members**

Joseph Franco, Jeremy Homolka, Galen Guffy, Liz Hansen, Sheri Burden, Megan Bentley-Moon

## **Total staff in attendance: 14**

- I. **Greetings**
  - a. Quick welcome and introductions around the room of staff in attendance.
- II. **Staff Association Updates**
  - a. Unsung Hero Award Nominations
    - i. Open until May 27, 2016
  - b. **Treasurer's Report**
    - i. \$745.16 in the bank
    - ii. Recent payments include bank fee and DSA expenses.
  - c. **Chancellor's Cabinet**
    - i. Two main issues being discussed:
      1. Commencement – to move or not to move? Staying in the Tacoma Dome this year, but they were able to secure additional seats (obstructed view)
      2. Feasibility study for Law School – consultant is in the beginning stages of this work
    - ii. As a reminder, Bob Hardie is our staff rep, please contact him with any concerns or items that you'd like brought forward. [bhardie@uw.edu](mailto:bhardie@uw.edu)
  - d. **Budget Committee Staff Representatives**
    - i. No report.
  - e. **Strategic Planning Update**
    - i. Nothing new to report, but Town Hall info will be going up on the website soon. Focus is now on subject experts for WIGs (Wildly Important Goals).
  - f. **Staff Association/Associated Students/Faculty Assembly (SAFSA) Update**
    - i. This group meets twice a quarter; Joe and Jeremy are our representatives.
    - ii. Big recent topics:
      1. Academic Time Matrix – representatives from the Faculty Assembly are joining in on the time scheduling meetings to make suggestions for improvements, based on concerns raised by faculty and students.
      2. Diversity and inclusion on campus – Dr. Ricardo Ortega gave an update on the Race and Equity Committee, which is releasing a document shortly that includes recommendations for campus, such as ensuring that our faculty of color matches the make-up of our student body, survey on campus climate and improvements to the staff/faculty onboarding process. Trainings will be coming soon, please encourage people to participate. First upcoming training will be next week; the Chancellor's cabinet, Joe and Jeremy,

students, and some members of the faculty assembly will participate in a diversity training.

**g. UWTSA By-Laws Changes and Staff Senate**

- i. Why change the by-laws?
  1. We have a growing staff population (330 staff now on campus)
  2. There is currently no representative body for staff.
  3. UWTSA is not necessarily seen as a place to vocalize issues.
  4. There has been no review of, or edits to, the by-laws since they were created in 2006.
  5. Allows for more staff development.
  6. Will align with Faculty Assembly and ASUWT.
- ii. There will be a campus-wide staff vote before any changes are made. At least 20% of all staff must participate in the vote, then a majority of those votes determines the decision.
- iii. "University of Washington Tacoma Staff Association" (UWTSA) will remain the overall name of the organization, made up of two bodies:
  1. Executive Board: chair, vice-chair, treasurer, secretary
  2. Senate: 13 representatives from different areas on campus
- iv. Breakdown of major changes/updates:

*\*Note: Please see the PowerPoint that was uploaded with these minutes for full details and more information.*

  1. Moving away from co-chair model to a chair/vice chair model.
  2. Updated the details of position responsibilities.
  3. Creation of staff senate/senators.
  4. Shifting of committees: Currently just an elections and mentoring committee. Proposing to have mentoring, events and recognition. (Elections is moved to Vice Chair responsibilities)
  5. Updated the timeline for elections: Shortened the process. Adding a section on how to recall an elected officer. Made an edit to allow for minor bylaw changes to be made at the Senate level.
- v. Discussion points raised during the meeting:
  1. Who would the Senators be? Does it have to be the same person each time or could it be a rotation rep? For smaller offices it might be helpful to allow for a different rep each meeting.
  2. How are Senators selected?
    - a. Currently it is written that the decision is up to the Vice Chancellors over each area to decide how they want to handle selection. Could choose on their own or do elections.
    - b. Suggestion to run a catalyst survey for voting, restricting access based on department. Could also do nominations through catalyst if we removed the need for a nomination to have a second (as the bylaws currently state). It was noted that having people nominate/second gives a voice and affirms things.
  3. Is Staff Association/Senate governed by OPMA? Might need to shift under the new organizational model.
  4. Suggestion to define what a vacancy means in Senate, and how does that affect quorum? Ex: If someone has an excused absence for a meeting, they may not be counted in the number for quorum.
  5. Are staff associations funded at other school? Can we get funding? The SA's intention is to explore funding and propose a budget if the Senate model is

approved, as we feel this model gives some support and legitimacy to the group. Chancellor Pagano is open to hearing budget proposals for staff development, etc.

vi. Next steps:

1. Sending a copy of the proposed changes, along with a survey, over UWTLline for broader feedback.
2. Will review and make necessary changes.
3. We will release a final proposal with a ballot at that point.
  - a. Need a minimum of 68 people to vote to achieve 20% of staff.
4. If passes, we will begin implementing the new system in the summer.

III. **Events**

- a. Summer BBQ – August 10 – Stay tuned for more info!