

Supportive Professional Staff Council  
Minutes  
Thursday, December 9, 2021 Meeting  
Teams & In-Person at HSC Capitol Room  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
**Approved January 13, 2022**

**Present:** Eric Armstrong, Monique Bernoudy, Felicia Bohanon, Terry Borg, John Boswell, Debra Boughton, LaBrian Carrington, Heath Duncan, Lupe Flores, Liz Guess, Andrea Hein, Joan Laurino, Jennifer Manning, Margaret Myles, Tom O'Grady, Michelle Pickett, Jerri Reynolds, Andrew Rogers, Ronald Smith, Roselyn Snell, Shannon Stoker, Christina Sutcliffe, Jason Underwood, Manuel Valdez, Megan Woodruff [Absent: Jeanna Ballard, Nathan Birtell, Melanie Costello]

**Guests:** Peter Chomentowski, Merlynette Griffin, Pulchratia Lacey, Holly Nicholson

I. **Call to Order:** President Bohanon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Roll Call:** Secretary Flores called the roll, and verified a quorum

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.

No discussion. All in favor by voice vote, motion carried. (Borg/Duncan)

**Approval of November Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2021 minutes was made and seconded, no discussion, all in favor by voice vote, motion carried. (Borg/Duncan)

II. **Announcements:**

**President Bohanon announced Terry Borg** is retiring effective December 31.

Bohanon presented Terry with a Certificate of Accomplishment for his many contributions to the Supportive Professional Staff Council and the University. Terry will be very much missed, and we wish him all the best going forward.

**January 26, 2022 Women's Basketball and SPS Pot Luck** in the Nelson Suite from 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass. Debra Boughton needs our support for this event, to send out to our constituents when the time is right. If this is something you would like to help her support, please let her know. We will be getting more information about this, Debra wants us to get this on our calendars, so make a note and stay tuned. **Update: Operating Staff and Faculty are also being invited!**

III. **University Committee Repots:**

**University Council:** Peter Chomentowski reported the Council has been having conversations about what the Council should look like, post re-organization, which is on their February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting agenda. [Upcoming meetings: 3/2; 4/6; 5/4]

**Student Government Association:** No report.

**Operating Staff Council:** Holly Nicholson reporting. Holly reminded everyone that nominations are open for the outstanding service award for civil service employees. If you have a favorite civil servant who you would like to have recognized, please make sure to nominate them for the award. You can nominate yourself as well. You can find nomination

materials and instructions on the OSC website. <https://www.niu.edu/operating-staff-council/award/nominations.shtml>

**Faculty Senate:** Peter Chomentowski: Nothing to report from the Faculty Senate at this time. [Upcoming meetings: 1/26; 2/23; 3/30; 4/27]

**Board of Trustees:** Peter Chomentowski reported the recent BOT meeting was Tuesday. One of the highlights was a presentation by Dean Lynda Ransdell from Health and Human Sciences talking about the headway she has made as the new Dean since July and what she wants to do with the program and how she plans to change it. She also spoke about the new Health and Human Sciences IT building which is to be constructed in the next two to three years.

The Board also talked about the annual report Lisa Freeman submitted and spoke kind words about her performance. The Board approved additional compensation for Freeman which of course as everyone knows, she donates to charity every year.

- IV. **Vice President's Report:** This report is posted in SharePoint under Documents and is posted in both SPSC groups: [Reps and Alts] and [Reps, Alts, Guests]. Bohanon reported the highlights of the report.

V. **Unfinished Business:**

a.) **Committee Reports:**

**Advocacy:** Bohanon reported the Workplace Climate survey is being distributed this week. A reminder notice will also be going out.

**Awards:** Megan reported receiving information about the work of the committee which they need to get through. They will be meeting and starting work in the new year.

**Communication & Technology:** Nothing to report today. They will be meeting and will have a report for our January Council meeting.

**Constitution & Elections:** No report

**Events:** Boswell reported plans for an SPS **Holiday Social, Wednesday, January 11 or 12**, at the Huskie Den 4:00-6:00 p.m. Snacks and Happy Hour. Bowling still uncertain.

**Professional Development:** Bernoudy reporting nothing new for today.

**Regional Community Relations:** Snell: Nothing to report today. There will be a report in January.

**SPS Dependent Scholarship Fund:** Smith reported no major updates, but restated students have the ability to begin applying for scholarships through January 31. The committee members will be taking training on the application process in January and begin reviewing candidates.

VI. **New Business:**

- a.) **Jennifer Manning** selected to serve on the search committee for VP for Student Affairs.
- b.) **John Boswell** appointed to the University Benefits Committee (for Borg).  
**Andrew Rogers** appointed to University Council and the joint Committee on Rules and Governance (for Borg).  
**Heath Duncan** appointed to Non-Union Faculty and Staff Grievance Pool (for Borg).  
**Shannon Stoker** volunteered for the Student Grievance Panel.(for Borg)

**VII. Adjournment:**

Bohanon reminded everyone to complete the survey and wished everyone a wonderful winter break. She is looking forward to seeing everyone in 2022. Bohanon then asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made and seconded, all in favor by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. (Borg/Duncan)

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lupe Flores, Secretary*