

Supportive Professional Staff Council

Teams Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 13, 2022

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Approved February 10, 2022

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

II. Roll Call - Lupe Flores called roll and verified a quorum.

III. Approval of Agenda - Bohanon called for a motion to approve the agenda. (Bernoudy/Costello); approved

IV. Approval of Minutes - Bohanon called for a motion to approve the December 9, 2021, minutes. (Snell/Rogers) approved.

V. Guest Speakers:

Bill Hodson, Senior Associate Vice President of Human Resource Services

Hodson's presentation was about developing a remote working policy framework and he was seeking feedback from the Council.

Liz Guess, Director, Insurance & Benefits

Guess discussed the biggest changes involving COVID regarding isolation/quarantine and surveillance. All details are on HR website and Protecting the Pack site.

If symptomatic, do not go to the regular testing site. Go instead to the Student Health Services via Shield. If symptomatic, no known contact, and a negative test, return to work.

Please direct questions via [ASK HR A QUESTION](#) on the HR website.

VI. Announcements: None

VII. University Committee Reports

University Council: February 2; March 2; April 6; May 4, 2022

Student Government Association: No report.

Operating Staff Council: Nicholson reported ongoing fundraising for the Civil Service Emergency Fund. She noted that people are reaching out for help.

Faculty Senate: Chomentowski reported: New Ombudsperson search starts in February or March.

Faculty Senate is meeting in person: February 23; March 20; April 27.

Board of Trustees Committees: February 10; May 12; August 18; November 10, 2022

Board of Trustees: March 24; June 16; September 15; December 8, 2022

VIII. Vice-President's Report presented by O'Grady and is posted in SharePoint: :

[2021-2022 SPS Council Reps & Alternates](#) or [SPSC Reps & Alternates & Guests 2021-2022](#)

Athletic Board: NIU participated in the Cure Bowl at Orlando, FL in December;

NIU's football team won the MAC Championship against Kent State (41-23)

Campus Parking Committee meets January 20

Libraries Advisory Committee: SCOPUS replaced Web of Science database;

Science on Sphere, projects data sets onto a 6' diameter sphere launching this month.

Parking Appeals Committee: Nine appeals, five approved, four denied.

Student Conduct Advisory Board: SCAB reconvened and meets January 14.

Student Conduct Board: meeting virtually and evaluating any revisions for Spring 2022.

University Benefits Committee: HR is doing the annual review of Prudential additional insurance coverage program for possible rate changes; HR is encouraging employees to have their W2's received electronically for improved security and efficiency. **Employees must opt in; this cannot**

be done automatically.

Retiring Terry Borg put together a comprehensive document of items that may be considered a university employment benefit for discussion and help in defining the scope of the committee's charge. The document will be placed in the Teams site for the committee.

IX. Unfinished Business:

a.) Committees Reports

Advocacy: Ballard reported the Workplace Climate survey is still recording responses. So far 114. The committee will be working a little longer on the data analysis piece. The committee also spent some time thinking about what their next initiative would be. Perhaps along the lines of community involvement.

Awards: No report.

Communications & Technology: No report.

Constitution & Elections: O'Grady reported there are twelve expiring terms. The committee meets next week to work on publicity and a timeline for the election. There will be more to report at the February Council meeting.

Events: Boswell reported the committee is going to wait until things get back together a bit more. Right now there is uncertainty around the January 26 basketball game.

Professional Development: Bernoudy reported the committee will meet February 1, 2022 and review the suggestions for professional development programs and develop an action plan for execution in collaboration with campus partners. The committee welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with Jeanna Ballard and the Workplace Issues Committee to ensure the responses to the Workplace Satisfaction Survey are included in their action plan.

Regional Community Relations: No report.

SPS Dependent Scholarship Fund: Smith reported students eligible for the scholarship will be able to apply through February 14. Committee members will be taking MyScholarship training next week and will probably schedule their first meeting mid to late February, once there are enough applicants to begin reviewing.

X. New Business: Selection of individual to serve on the ombudsperson search committee. Manuel Valdez volunteered. Hearing no other volunteers, Bohanon closed the nomination and called for a motion and second to approve Valdez. Bernoudy so moved, Valdez seconded, the motion carried.

Bohanon asked for suggestions for visiting presenters. O'Grady suggested Brian Smith and Tim Paquette from the Employee Assistance Program.

XI. Adjournment: Bohanon asked for a motion to Adjourn, Laurino so moved, seconded by Myles. The meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by
Lupe Flores, Secretary.*