**Supportive Professional Staff Council**

**General Meeting – Minutes**

February 13, 2025

Virtual Meeting

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

**Approved March 13, 2025**.

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

**Roll Call:** SecretaryDeborah Gettemy called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

**Members Present:** Chynar Amanova, Emily Belcher, Felicia Bohanon, Bill Braksick, Cody Carter, Heath Duncan, Deborah Gettemy, Liz Guess, Margaret Myles, Tom O’Grady, Candice Olagunju, Anthony Preston, Erin Smith, Shannon Stoker, Kyle Springer, Megan Woodruff

**Members Excused:** John Boswell, Karinne Bredberg, Michael Kunigonis, Jennifer Manning, Kellie Martial, Lauren Teso

**Guests:** Vice President George Middlemist; Vice President John Acardo and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper

**Approval of Agenda:** Properly motioned and seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Agenda accepted by voice vote.

**Approval of January 9, 2025, Minutes:** Properly motioned and seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Agenda accepted by voice vote.

Vice President George Middlemist; Vice President John Acardo and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper met with the SPSC to discuss concerns related to budget and the direction the university is taking. The January 2025 minutes includes a list of questions and concerns raised by the SPSC.

**Committee Reports:**

**Advocacy:** The final draft of the Survey is ready to go out. President Bohanon noted she added a question at the end about the SPSC awards and a couple of questions regarding trust among employees and among employees and administration. I did add a question at the end of the survey about if individuals were interested in serving on council or university committees.

So, please look it over one last time.

**Awards**: Emily Belcher reporting. The Qualtrics is going to be sent out for nominations which will be due February 28 and the awards will be presented at the Staff Fest March 12.

**Constitution and Elections**: Tom O’Grady reporting. We expect to have our elections schedule set and when we will start taking nominations and when the election will occur. If you know people who would be valuable or who are looking for an opportunity to serve, gently nudge them that this would be a good opportunity for them. I will provide more information next month.

**Events**: Margaret Myles reporting. Staff Fest is planned to happen, however, the committee felt a responsibility to check with the President’s Office on Monday to ensure those funds can continue to be used to support StaffFest—we are still waiting for that confirmation. We only have about 64 SPS RSVPs confirming attendance. If you have not already done so, please do go ahead and respond. We’d love to see you at the event. We do need some help in terms of volunteers to work half hour shifts, so I am going to put a sign up sheet in the chat. Volunteers are needed for Check-in; Games; Box Lunch Food Line. We are having a table for the Dependent Scholarship so we are working to have materials and we will need people to man the table throughout the event, 11:00 – 2:00. How the awards are given out at Staff Fest will need to be worked out.

Additionally, Margaret Myles is currently serving on the university awards review committee and since Felicia Bohanon will not be, Tom O’Grady volunteered to take Felicia’s spot. Felicia will inform Liz Wright

**Professional Development**: Cody Carter reporting. We met this week. I am currently working on connecting with Catherine Doederlein to have her in for a presentation on some professional development opportunities that are easy to take advantage of as an SPS employee and that would not cost anything. I am in the process of getting that finalized. Our other idea was to promote some of the variety of training opportunities offered by Employee Well-being this spring. We should have both of these ideas finalized and in place and perhaps a post session meeting or break out or something to have a discussion about what we learned within the training.

**Dependent Scholarship Fund:** Heath Duncan reporting. We have 26 applicants and are in the process of reviewing those. We will meet in a week and a half and start our discussions on awarding those. So, it’s going well!

Wrap-Up by President Bohanon:

When we meet in March, we will be able to review the topics in my recent emails to you and make recommendations and decisions. One of which will be on the SPS Personnel Advisor position.

President Bohanon Adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Mitchell, Administrative Aide.