

Lamar University Staff Council Meeting
March 5, 2019
Library, 8th Floor

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Diann Brodnax, President, at 10:04 a.m. Roll was called by Diann Brodnax. A quorum was present.

Members present: Diann Brodnax, Stephanie Allen, Kristie Cardenas, Guy Crossley, Gina Decuir, Paula Gregory, Charlotte Holliman, Tina Johnson, Chrissy Jones, Sherika King, Yolanda Monroe, Kayce Smith, Bert Wagner, Julie Walker, Melaney Whiting

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: Staff Council Officers did not meet with the LU Executives in February. The next scheduled meeting with the Execs is in March.

Activities and Events Committees

Community Service: Yolanda Monroe, Council Member, noted the upcoming community service project:

- March 2019 – Meals on Wheels Potato Sale– see email for more details.

Staff Awards Ceremony: No report.

Staff Social Events: No report.

Student Success: No report.

Communication and Outreach Committees

Communications: Committee will begin meeting spring 2019.

Staff Relations: Committee will begin meeting spring 2019.

Nominations Committees

Nominations: No report.

Nominations Drive: No report.

Operational Support Committees

Bylaws Committee: No report.

Unfinished Business:

A big thank you to Sherika King, Council Member, for volunteering to help with the Scholarship Dinner this year. A big thank you to Tina Johnson, Council Member, for helping with the food order this month.

Diann is still working on organizing staff awards that were left after the Awards Ceremony. She hopes to have that task completed soon so Council members can begin delivering awards to those in their represented areas.

New Business:

There was some discussion about performance based and merit based raises. If the majority of the Council wants to pursue this topic, Diann stated there would need to be research conducted and data gathered before presenting to administration.

Good of the Order: Two guest speakers attended today's meeting:

Dr. Mustapha Jourdini – Director, International Student Programs and Services

Dr. Jourdini discussed 3 upcoming events on campus and asked that we help promote the events in our areas.

- Interfaith Panel – Women in Holy Scriptures
March 21, 2019 4-6 pm – Landes Auditorium
Learn and examine the portrayal of women and their contributions in building communities.
- International Poetry Reading
April 2, 2019 11 am – 2 pm 6th floor, Library
April is International Poetry Month
Food will be provided
- 7th Annual International Cultural Festival
April 13, 2019 2-6 pm – Setzer Center
Events and dinner showcasing both international and domestic events and cuisine
Invitations will be mailed out soon, limit is 300 attendees.

Dr. Jourdini has asked that we please share information about the upcoming events within our Represented areas. He would like to see more participation among staff and faculty at cultural events on campus.

Dr. Judith Mann – Associate Professor of Psychology

Dr. Mann discussed a Hurricane Harvey Assistance Program for students – LU Strong

- LU received a 2-year grant from the Department of Education to provide financial assistance/resources to LU students affected by the storm.
They are waiting for approval regarding an additional 1 ½ year grant from an outside agency.

LU Strong Center is located under Student Engagement in coordination with the Office of Student Financial Aid and Student Health Center.

A few examples of eligible expenses are tuition and books, temporary housing, help with utilities and food, mental health expenses, replacement of personal belongings, etc.

There will be an application process and documentation of damage is required.

A survey was conducted among students identified as affected by Harvey.

When asked the question – where are you currently living – 10% responded other or between places. Dr. Mann stated this could mean they are homeless and the LU Strong Center is hoping to locate these students and help them.

Dr. Mann has asked that we please share the flyer provided and help reach out to students affected by Harvey.

The next Staff Council meeting will be April 9, 2019 in the Library.

Gina Decuir, moved to adjourn the meeting and Yolanda Monroe seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diann Brodnax

Diann Brodnax, President
Lamar University Staff Council