

**Augsburg College
Staff Senate**

Wednesday, November 5, 2014
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Lindell Library 301

Present: Kelly Anderson-Diercks, Mark Chamberlain, Michael Grewe, Jim Matthias, Martha Truax

Absent: Seth Lienard, Dulce Monterrubio, Joanne Reeck

Items in bold are action items.

1. Approving Minutes
 - a. The minutes from October 15 were approved.
2. Governance Updates
 - a. President
 - i. Jim and Mark met with the President last Thursday. They discussed the Community Engagement Day. President Pribbenow suggested this happen in both the fall and spring.
 - ii. They thanked the President for the spot at the table at the Board of Regents meeting.
 - b. Leadership Council
 - i. Discussed innovation initiatives the Augsburg has done in the past 30 years in order to foster discussion around future innovation.
3. Committee Updates
 - a. Diversity & Inclusion
 - i. A diversity and inclusion survey was sent to every student on Monday, October 27. Please encourage your students to take it if they have not already.
 - b. Safety
 - i. Martha was absent at the last safety committee meeting.
 - ii. Another meeting is taking place next week.
 - c. IT
 - i. We will take IT off of the agenda for future meetings, as Staff Senate does not have a reserved spot on this committee.
 - d. College Resource Committee
 - i. Nothing to report.
4. Community Service Day
 - a. 7 people were in first shift; 9 people, in the second shift.
 - b. The major goal of the event should be giving opportunities to staff members to utilize their community service hours.
 - c. Spring date could happen during spring break, and we could extend the invitation to faculty, students, and alumni.
 - i. We settled on either Tuesday, March 17, or Thursday, March 19.
 - ii. **Martha will check with Mary Laurel and Steve to see which date would work better.**
5. Staff Appreciation Awards
 - a. Awards Nomination Process
 - i. We will move to a completely online nominations form. **Mike will create this form and look over the wording.**

- ii. The award submission window will be Monday, January 5 through Friday, February 13.
 - iii. We will be meeting on Monday, February 23 to select the recipients of the awards.
 - b. **Martha will set a meeting time with her, Mike, Dulce, Seth, and Mark to discuss publicity of these awards.**
 - c. **Mike will confirm the date of the Staff Appreciation Awards with Event and Conference Planning and the President.**
 - d. **Mike will also research those who have won it in past years.**
- 6. Social Choice Option in the Retirement Plan
 - a. Our new retirement plan option does not include a Social Choice option. Social Choice options have certain limits set on them that are considered “socially responsible,” such as not funding big oil, big tobacco, etc.
 - b. Augsburg stopped providing it because they did not want to slow down the shift to our new options.
 - i. Human Resources has said they are looking into new Social Choice options.
 - c. Several staff members have said that they wanted it back because it aligns with Augsburg’s mission of being socially responsible.
 - d. **Kelly will write a letter to Dionne to let her know that we have received feedback around adding a new Social Choice option.**
- 7. Connecting Alumni with Current Students in Mentorship Program
 - a. Institutional Advancement has a mentorship program called “Augsburg Builds Connections” (ABC Program) that connects students with alumni.
 - i. The program currently does not have a focus on retention. It is more focused on students who would like to have an alumni mentor.
 - ii. There are many alumni who want to be mentors, but there are not as many students who have requested wanting alumni.
 - iii. There are currently 27 partnerships.
- 8. Auggie Pride Awards
 - a. Individuals who do not win will be moved forward one month; if they do not receive it again, they will be contacted that they were nominated, did not receive it, but share their nomination.
 - b. Stephen Geffre and Sarah Griesse won for October.
 - i. **Mark will contact the winners.**
- 9. Next Meeting
 - a. Our next Staff Senate meeting is **Wednesday, November 19** from **11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** in **Marshall Room**. The Open Forum guest will be **William Mullen and Rick Ellis**.