



STAFF SENATE MINUTES

MEETING DATE: MAY 1, 2025

PRESIDING OFFICER: CHAIR CAMPBELL KEELE

The Staff Senate held the May Session in PSU, room 313. Chair Keele called the session to order at 11:04 a.m.

Absences: Charles Babb JF1, Melissa Lafarlette JF1, Margaret Osler JF1, Angie Piercy JF1, Vicki Kramer JF1, Jared Steeves JF2, Stacey Stopczynski JF3, Sierra Chitwood JF4, Amy Daniels JF4, Deidre Mings
Division Representative

Guests: Gretchen Gawron, Holly Keehner, Angela Goerndt, Rebecca Jade Morris, Dr. Baum, Holly Reynolds, Rob Ybanez, Amy Huff, Stephanie Van Rhein

GREETINGS

- Chair Keele welcomed everyone to the May Senate Meeting.

GUEST SPEAKERS

- Rob Hornberger: Enrollment Report
 - Roughly 20% of MO high school graduates come to MSU
 - There will be a big drop in high school graduates in the next 12 years
 - Our biggest competition is students who do not go to any university
 - Our biggest decline in enrollment is from continuing students
 - Our retention rate is 75.7%
 - We can all help with that → goal is 80% and higher
 - Peak enrollment was in 2017
 - Fall 2025 shows that we are 9.3% higher than the same time in Fall 2024 for SOAR
RSVPs, 2.9% higher in housing contracts, and 6% higher in deposits.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

NEW SENATOR SWEAR IN

- No one was sworn in.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

- Chair report: Admin council is changing names to President's Cabinet. Share with others that a Chief of Staff position and a VP in Enrollment Management job are posted. A \$600 raise has been proposed and is being taken to the Board of Governors June meeting. 70% of staff make less than \$60,000/year, so this will benefit more staff than a 1% raise would.
- Chair Elect: Budget discussion – send ideas for how to use the extra funds to StaffSenate@missouristate.edu.
- Past-Chair: Staff Appreciation T-shirts will be available for pickup in Carrington Hall before Staff Appreciation Week in June. For Staff Appreciation Week June 16-20, events are:
 - Monday – staff photo and Mother's Brewing Company event
 - Tuesday – thank a staff member
 - Wednesday – Pineapple Whip on campus
 - Thursday – university is closed
 - Friday – snacks at Glass Hall
- Coordinator of Communications: No Report
- Coordinator of Committees: No Report.
- Secretary: position vacant
- Parliamentarian: Bylaws work group may meet and propose changes in July to the 2025-2026 senate. For the first time ever, there are more than 10 people running for senator positions. The system will only accommodate 10, so a Microsoft form will be sent to job family 1. It will be less anonymous than normal to make sure only job family 1 staff vote. The old system could be updated to accommodate bigger groups of nominees, but it would take 2 months to be fixed.

EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION REPORTS

- Academic Calendar (Rigby): No report.
- Administrative Budget Committee (Bridges) – No report.
- New Employee Welcome (Keele) – Event was canceled. There will be one in summer.
- Employee Wellness (Martin) – There is a donut run. Destress fest is coming up. It's festival season and Artsfest is this weekend. See the wellness blog for more information.
- Executive Budget (Keele): No report.
- Faculty Senate (Bridges): They have a new chair elect – Heidi Backes.
- Health Care & Benefits (Mings): Donate to shared leave pool. A campaign will happen before June to donate hours to the shared leave pool. Employees who have donated 48 hours (the max) will be allowed to donate up to an additional 16 hours.
- Inclusion Awareness Team (Phillips) – No report.
- Inclusive Engagement Council (Derrick) – No report.
- IT Council (Bridges) – No report.
- President's Council on Accessibility (Derrick): No report.
- Shared Leave (Schlinder): Approved one case April 8th. Cases are being approved in increments.

- Staff Excellence in University Service Awards: No report.
- Strategic Planning Committee (Hader): The new plan came together well and is with the writers. There are a lot of goals, such as 30,000 enrolled students by 2030.
- Student Government (Keele) – SGA is done meeting for the school year. Tamia will be Biff's GA next year. Thanks to those who attended meetings.
- Sustainability Advisory Committee (Letterman) – MSU had a goal to reach gold but will likely reach silver. Senator Letterman will let us know next meeting if there is anything staff can do to help us reach gold next year.
- Sustainability Commission (Webster) – No report.
- Transportation Advisory (Metzger) – No report.
- University Council (Keele): No report.
- University Space Allocation (Decker) – No report.
- Wall of Fame (Keele) – Met and selected candidates to bring to the Board during the May BOG meeting.
- West Plains Staff Senate (Smith) – No report.
- Wyrick Commission (Webster) – No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Public Affairs (Harter): Next meeting is May 20th on Zoom. May 1st at 4 pm is adopt a street – cleanup is canceled because of all the rain. The social hour at 5 pm at Tie and Timber is still scheduled. The April 21st President Williams book discussion went well. We will schedule hope notes for Ozarks Food Harvest and adopt a street cleanup in summer.
- Staff Activities (Mallonee): Mizzou vs. MSU baseball game was well attended. Alamo May 3rd tickets were gone within hours. There will be a Cardinals game in June.
- Staff Development (Phillips): No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Elections – The Chair Elect will be Senator Misty Webster. The Coordinator of Committees will be Rachel Rigby. The Coordinator of Communication will be Kelly Schlinder.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator Smith asked for Staff Senate to consider supporting a new study abroad program site visit/exploratory visit with \$1,500. The program will be to Mexico and focus on an affordable professional development opportunity for low-income and first-generation students, as well as staff. This will be brought back to the June meeting.

OPEN FORUM

It is IPSE day – Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Day. People could leave notes and check out materials. Contact Senator Phillips for more information.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to close May meeting by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm.