



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - SAN ANTONIO

Staff Council

Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2019, CAB 410

In attendance from Staff Council:

President-Brandon Oliver

President-Elect – Nancy Larson

Secretary – Sarah Timm

Absent from Staff Council:

Treasurer-Teresa Petersen

Parliamentarian – Larry Ynman

Others in attendance:

CHRO – Martha Gonzalez

President-Cynthia Teniente-Matson

1. Begin meeting
2. Review Minutes
3. Shared Governance Hot Topics
 - Suggestion Topic Item (Michelle Anguiano): Parking in front of Modular C
 - i. Some of my fellow staff members want to know if anything can be done about the parking situation in front of the modular. They are wanting to see if it can be converted back to faculty/staff parking as currently it is student only parking.
 - ii. Nancy mentioned that there is not a clear walking path from the current faculty/staff lot to modular C. She stated that you have to walk across grass that is sometimes wet and often cars are going through the parking lot quickly so safety is a concern. Brandon mentioned he's seen someone peel out as well. Nancy suggested that a speed bump might help. Dr. Matson asked Martha to get involved and work with Christian on a solution.
 - Suggestion Box Item (Anonymous): Scooters on campus
 - i. As cities and local businesses are starting to ban scooters, should we really be looking to bring scooters on campus? We need to make sure we are providing safety to the scooter drivers as well as to students, staff, and faculty who could be injured by a scooter. Also, with no nurse on campus, how are we going to handle injuries on campus?
 - ii. Response from Christian Harmon: Based on the research we have done looking at other universities, some much bigger than ours, having scooters operate on campus can have much more positive benefits versus negative if proper regulation, signage, and public education about safety is implemented alongside



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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - SAN ANTONIO

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them. We have identified that the size of our campus and expected future growth, proper foundation of a scooter program will yield a positive value to our students and community members. References the claim from the feedback form, the surrounding cities are not banning them entirely, but are placing regulations on how scooters operate. As stated above, we believe with the size of our campus and what we are going to grow into, that the scooters will be a positive addition to provide an alternative transportation option for students to use to get between the campus and where they parked their vehicle. We anticipate injuries will be minimal as our campus is still small and regulation will not be as difficult as a larger campus (such as the size of UT or A&M-College Station). However, planning for anything serious, the nearest ER is Southwest General Hospital, a short 3.7 miles away from campus. Similar to bikes on campus, maximum efforts on our part cannot stop all possible incidents from happening, however we do intend to make every effort possible to prevent one.

- iii. Brandon mentioned that because this was an anonymous submission, we'll be sure to post the minutes online for review. Dr. Matson stated that there are lots of opinions on scooters. Nancy mentioned that with military riding motorcycles, they are required to take a safety training course first so she thought something similar for scooters might be helpful.
 - iv. ACTION ITEM: Put together a small group of staff (3 to 5 people) to meet with Christian to discuss possible pros and cons of scooters on campus. Dr. Matson feels like staff are on campus longer hours than faculty and students (with the exception of residents) so they have a good perspective on potential issues with scooters.
- Suggestion Box Item (Anonymous): Student Designated Drop Off
 - i. Student Designated Drop Off. It seems all morning PD is issuing tickets for students being dropped off in front of campus. Would it not be smarter for PD to have a designated drop off location with signage, possibly the turnaround behind CAB in between CAB and the Modular buildings? The concept would be similar to how the AT&T center handles drop-offs.
 - ii. Response from Chief Davidson: People being dropped off in front of the fountain does the following:
 - Blocks others from gaining access to lot 1, Esperanza Hall, Patriots' Casa, blocks the bike lanes, pedestrian crosswalks and general congestion into the intersection of University and Jaguar Way.
 - When they drop off, they usually make an illegal U-turn from the fire zone (in front of the fountain) causing a traffic hazard for those who are using the legal traffic control devices at University and Jaguar Way.
 - I am not aware of any citations being issued except those making the illegal U-turns which are usually warnings (unless there are aggravating circumstances).





TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - SAN ANTONIO

Staff Council

- Personnel are welcome to use lot #2 (east of the auditorium) or the circle area directly behind the CAB.
 - We had signs posted last year informing people to drop off/pick up personnel in the parking lots, but were told to remove them.
 - iii. Dr. Matson will talk with Dr. Spindle about this. She is happy to examine the situation in more detail as it will most likely happen more as the university grows. She mentioned that the campus wasn't really designed initially with a drop off area in mind.
 - Suggestion Box Item (Anonymous): Vacuuming Madla Building
 - i. Madla offices do not get vacuumed unless a ticket is submitted to facilities. Even if the ticket is submitted, it is closed without the request being completed. Not certain what the contract states with the cleaning company that we currently have, but there should be a standard that the offices are vacuumed on a daily/weekly basis.
 - ii. Why do we need to submit a request to have offices vacuumed? This used to be done on a regular basis or all the time.
It seems like the cleaning of offices duties have drastically changed and has created the creation of dusty offices and uncleaned office areas.
I hope this changes. I wonder if other staff are having the same issue or is it only in certain locations, buildings or offices.
 - iii. Response from Mick Deeds: Without knowing specifics of problem areas, I have discussed with the cleaning company in particular their manager and regional manager and they do a detail cleaning of the offices weekly and spot vacuum daily (daily and weekly done in mornings). They have assured me they will follow up with this task. This will be an emphasis on my weekly inspection of cleaning going forward. I pulled the work orders for the last three months in Madla and there were three work orders placed for vacuuming and cleaning of the breakrooms.
 - iv. Dr. Matson will follow up with Dr. Spindle about this.
 - Suggestion Box Item (Anonymous): The snack machines on this campus are horrible. It's not obvious when they are or aren't working and it takes your money without giving you the snack. When you choose the option to get your money back it never comes out.
 - i. Response from Daniel Garza: Johnny Guevara contacted our vending machine vendor and informed them of the issues we are incurring. I directed Johnny to insist we have signage on ALL Vending Machines containing a point of contact for system failure, or reimbursements.
 - ii. Johnny will follow up with Brandon when the signage is installed.
4. New Business
- Staycation





TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - SAN ANTONIO

Staff Council

- i. Friday, March 15. Showing of Back to the Future in Auditorium, 1950's/80's theme, food (sliders, fries, milkshakes), Delorean rental, props & prizes.
 - ii. Alternate menu – Salads with edamame, tofu and quinoa as the proteins. Everything would be on the side in bowls for the salads.
 - iii. Chief Davidson and facilities said YES to parking the Delorean in front of Auditorium.
 - iv. Brandon mentioned that we've had 98 R.S.V.P.s so far! He also stated we'll have some great door prizes including a Back to the Future fan pack.
5. Unfinished Business
- Suggestion Box Item: Staff Emergency Fund
 - i. Sub-committee: Sarah Timm, Rebeka Delgado and Michelle Anguiano
 - ii. Received memo from President Matson.
 - iii. Sub-committee to meet with Dr. Ortega – Sarah mentioned that she and Rebeka met with Dr. Ortega on February 8th prior to the release of Dr. Matson's memo approving the fund. Dr. Ortega said that once the memo from Dr. Matson was released, he would work with Sharon Otholt to get the account set up for the Staff Emergency Fund. After Dr. Matson's memo was released, Sarah forwarded it to Dr. Ortega and stated they were ready for him to contact Sharon but no response was received. Sarah followed up with Dr. Ortega late last week but still has not received an affirmative response that the account has been set up.
 - Suggestion Box Item: Staff Council Sponsored Employee Spotlight of the Month
 - i. Sub-committee: Teresa Peterson, Frank Sanchez and Rachel Montejano
 - ii. Review feedback & answers from Cabinet meeting
 - iii. Next steps – edits, other reviewers, implementation – Brandon stated that the committee decided to go with quarterly nominations instead of monthly. They will get the finalized document to Dr. Matson for review soon.
 - Constitution & By-Laws Revisions
 - i. Sub-committee: Brandon Oliver, Larry Ynman and Nancy Larson
 - ii. Received from memo from President Matson. Updated version is on the website.
 - Summer Hours
 - i. Fridays begin on May 19 through August 13
 - ii. Received memo from President Matson
 - iii. Each VP is responsible for determining which departments are eligible to adopt early closure hours and providing a list for Cabinet approval by March 1.
 - iv. Departments not eligible for early closure are encouraged to consider flexible summer work schedules. Flexible scheduling plans without office closure are subject to approval by the managing VP for the department but do not require Cabinet approval.
 - v. Marketing & communications will be charged with communication. Dr. Matson said that Jessica Loudermilk should be working with the Office of Marketing and Communications to help get the word out but that she would follow up with her.





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Staff Council

- Staff Development
 - i. Employee Award: Staff Council representative
 - ii. Assist with Employees Awards & Staff Development Day
 - iii. Martha mentioned that Wednesday, June 5th has been selected for Employee Development Day. Brandon, Francy and Julie Williams from Staff Council are all serving in some way on committees for Staff Development Day.
- 6. Remarks from Dr. Matson
 - She mentioned that the history wall unveiling is coming up and encouraged us to attend.
 - She thought that Staff Council could encourage other groups or departments around campus to take a tour of the 10 year anniversary exhibit at the Presidio Gallery, similar to what Martha will be doing with the HR staff.

