

Seattle University Staff Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 8th, 2021, 1:00 PM PT – 3:00 PM PT

Location: Remote using Zoom

Present: Kit Morse, Kari Langsea, Chelsea Lien, Andrea Ross, Angie Jenkins, Carly Darcher, Chuy Garcia, Corey Belser, Dario Ogaz, Dawn Madore, Eunice MacGill, Julie Schwabe, Laura Hauck-Vixie, Matt Burton, Stephanie Lewis

Minutes: Eddie Salazar | **Edits:** Chelsea Lien, SUSC Secretary/Treasurer

Welcome

- Introductions, Land acknowledgement, Group norms, Check-in

University Update: Tim Leary, Executive Vice President, Cabinet liaison

- 300 new employees since March 2020 so many who have never before been physically on campus
- In discussion of student experience, a huge emphasis is placed on staff influence
- Professional Formation for staff – 80 employment openings, most are staff – competitive market
- How to create environment to be attractive, and how to overcome struggles to retain employees
- Challenge in keeping up with shifting COVID protocols from local authorities, e.g. – how to handle exemptions?
- Vaccinated: faculty/staff in 90 percentages, students in the 80 percentages
- Flex Work Plan – difficult for many to return to campus – every VP needs to submit plans to HR.
- Ventilation in spaces are mixed on campus – Tiered measures – Working on portable ventilation units – List of building ventilation and filtration by tiers, <https://www.seattleu.edu/media/facilities-services/covid-19-response-plan/Appendix-E1-Tier-Ratings-2021-09-08-Rev-14.pdf>
- Presidential Inauguration events guidelines – vaccination, masks, etc. Additionally, Benaroya Hall has strict protocols.
- Inaugural Mass at St. James will have excellent zoom/streaming
- Is there a feedback plan from the bottom-up Flex Work Plan?
- If a staff person does not feel that he/she was heard in Flex process, maybe recourse with area VP or HR
- Important to President is “in-person” education, wherever that can happen safely, etc.
- Planning for long term? Reality is that we will be in “endemic” for the foreseeable future.

Public Safety Update – Craig Birkliid

- Parking on campus
Review of transportation options as folks return:
<https://www.seattleu.edu/transportation/parking/employee/permits-prices/>
<https://www.seattleu.edu/transportation/orca-transit-pass/employee/>
- Other safety issues
 - Open academic buildings during day, and evening card entry
 - Crime reports from the last 20 months

Leadership Team Report

- Special election for Non-exempt Structural (non-academic) spot – open to campus
 - Emails to council – Masking questions
 - Colleague question regarding a trans legal name issue
 - Reopening questions

Reopening Issues

- Collecting remaining questions and concerns for elevation and university response

- Kiosk in visitor lot for surveillance testing
- Reopening Committee meets on Fridays at 2:00. Please forward issues or questions

Committees Review

- Expectations – check work demands, care of self
- Membership – Kit will correlate committee membership requests
- Professional Development committee on hiatus
- Leadership meeting before Oct SUSC meeting

Closed Session: Secretary/Treasurer Election

- Chelsea Lien voted into Secretary/Treasurer position to be held through June 30, 2022

Next SUSC meeting: Weds, October 13, 1:00-3:00pm PDT.

Please submit agenda requests via email to Kari Langsea (SUSC VP) langseak@seattleu.edu by October 6, Weds, 4:30pm