

Staff Work Life Committee Minutes
January 15, 2021 – 1:00 p.m. (via Zoom)

Attendance: Rita Mannelli, Jon Fleming, Thomas Keilman, Ann Knaak, Jazzmyn Ivery-Robinson,
Stacey Stehle, Valarie Wilson

Ex Officio: Cynthia Cusimano (HR Representative), Patrick Richey

Absent: Cathy Stevens (ex officio)

Various Updates

- Oak Pantry Drive—the donation boxes located at Smyth and GAC are full; Tom Keilman will take care of coordinating delivery. There will be another ‘shout out’ request for donation through Naz@Work email to faculty and staff before the students return.
- Suggestion Box Issue – resolve
- Coffee Break with President Paul is set for Thursday, January 28, 2021. The committee brainstormed on the theme, suggestions for questions and/or topic to pose, keeping it light-hearted as it is *Coffee Break*. The last coffee break with President Paul on November 5, 2020 was well received.

Staff Senate Suggestion Discussion (continued)

Suggestion was received via the online forum, echoing the one discussed by the SWLC last November 20th meeting. *“Is there a way that the Staff Work Life Committee could be evolved to a “Staff Senate” structure?”*

Discussion Question for the group:

Without creating a formal “Staff Senate,” are there ways we can evolve/improve/shift our committee to raise the staff’s voice to address some of the concerns being expressed by the community? How can we change how we are perceived on campus to elevate our impact?

Various ideas on the discussion question for the group are as follows:

1. Request for the committee representation to be included in the conversation/planning with academic affairs department in the future events for faculty and staff such as Assembly Day.
2. How to change the perception of the committee as a whole. Is it a ‘branding’ problem? Use Council instead of Committee? By-laws would need to be updated if change is going to be effected.
3. Send a short survey to the staff on how the SWLC can be helpful.

Next steps:

- Stacey Stehle will look at the previous survey and responses
- Request for a feedback on the Coffee Break with President Paul on Thursday, January 28, 2021.

The next meeting is scheduled on February 19, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erminda Hugh