

## Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2025

### 1. Standing Items

- a. Call to order
- b. March minutes approved and posted
- c. Approval of Agenda
- d. Chancellor Team Update - Chancellor Grasso
  - i. Chancellor Grasso met with the Executive Officers, working to best position ourselves for the tumult that is coming
  - ii. Went to the Coalition for Transformational Education with Marie Waung. The Chancellor will be inviting Eric Mazur to campus. He is an expert in Practice-based education. He's a Professor of Physics at Harvard
  - iii. The Chancellor attended the Faculty/Staff Alumni Campus lunch last week, which was a nice event. Rima, Ken and others attended the ACCESS dinner last week, which was well attended.
  - iv. Yesterday (April 22) the Chancellor went to the Lavender Commencement ceremony. It was a beautiful event. The Provost, Amy and Shareia attended as well. The faculty advisor for LGBTQ had an emergency and couldn't attend, but she recorded her greeting.
  - v. Commencement is this Saturday, April 26.
  - vi. Next week the Chancellor will testify about our budget in Lansing
  - vii. Our Soiree in the City is May 1 at Michigan Central train station. Warde Manuel will be the emcee. He's the Donald R Shepherd Director of Athletics at UM.
- e. Provost Team Update - Provost Scarlatta
  - i. The Provost echoed the Chancellor – the Lavender Ceremony was fantastic.
  - ii. Tonight is SOAR
- f. CECS Dean: [Ghassan Kridli, Ph.D.](#)
  - i. Dean Kridli gave updates on CECS, and gave a presentation, including:
    1. CECS Student Facts and Figures for fall 2024
    2. Personnel Updates
    3. Information on the HP-EPIC (Henry Patton Entrepreneurship, Practice and Innovation Center
    4. How the undergraduate degree programs evolve, and graduate programs align with Michigan's talent needs
    5. Kern Entrepreneurial Engineering Network (KEEN)
    6. Key research areas
    7. Summer programs
- g. HR Update - Rima Berry-Hung
  - i. Mhealthy – May is mental health awareness month. FASCCO services Dearborn faculty and staff. They will provide extra support in May. More information on the website.
  - ii. As of March 1, the university partnered with Bright Horizons. Sign up to use it. The university pays if we need child or elder care.

- iii. For stress relief and your well-being, take your vacation time. A good 25% of staff are near or at max. Twenty five staff are at the max of 400 hours. Please take your time! When you're at 400, your giving money back to the University.
- iv. "University Staff United" was recently recognized as a union here at UM. We are still in talks/bargaining process. Lisa Copeland will be representing our campus. Bargaining should start by fall.
- v. There is an email circulating in Ann Arbor about an AA employee – regarding another politically motivated firing. If we find ourselves in the situation of receiving a similar email, exercise caution when reading. We have a pretty stringent process when it comes to employment situations. We don't discharge without cause. If you have concerns, reach out to someone in HR or colleagues. Information doesn't always come to light because it's not always appropriate.
- vi. Temporary staff will now accrue sick time
- h. ITS Update - Joseph Lubomirski
  - i. Good news – as of 2 weeks ago, we migrated dispatch over to zoom. We are completely online now with the zoom phones.
  - ii. Sensitive Data Scan - You may receive an email regarding sensitive data that was found on your shared drive. Ann Arbor colleagues will scan files, looking for data (including social security numbers/credit card numbers). Sometimes we have files on our desktop that we don't need anymore. If the files aren't there it minimizes the possibility of losing data. See the Sensitive data portal and instructions for sensitive data on the website
  - iii. Recent Email Scams (An email was also sent last week.) Students have recently suffered financial loss due to phishing scams. To report phishing emails, go to the ITS Safe computing website
  - iv. International Travel has become more troublesome. Please be sure to check our Traveling with Technology website. It's advisable to leave your electronics at home, including phones/laptops/tablets. Loaner laptops are available from ITS for international travel, and a burner phone could be an option. Please note you do NOT have to give up your passport.
- i. Student Government Update - Rida Patni, Secretary.
  - i. Thank you to the staff for creating an amazing year.
  - ii. Student government had a presidential election – current president Rupinder Singh was re-elected, his inauguration will be on May 6, Kochoff Hall A.
- j. Dept of Public Safety – Sgt Kaitlin Deslatte reported out.
  - i. There are Clery updates for training. They are working on automating it. Staff need to take the training again due to updates. Everyone should report, whether or not they are a "reporter"
  - ii. DPS is part of the annual Memorial Day parade on Monday the 26th. They are partnering with the Student Veterans Association. Contact Sgt. Deslatte if you want to join and participate in the parade.
  - iii. There are new stands for Narcan – Fairlane and here. Also installed drop offs for old medications. Medications don't need to be labeled. Just dump them in, they get incinerated. No need to do anything extra. No liquids yet, maybe in the future
- k. Budget Update - Richard Durant
  - i. \$19,025.01 is projected for the end of April

## **2. Guest Speakers**

- a. [Office of Holistic Excellence Presentation](#): Co-Directors - Shareia Carter, Rima Berry-Hung, Marie Waung
  - i. Their presentation included:
    1. The charge, the Mission Statement
    2. Survey responses, and comments from faculty, staff and students.
    3. Promoting Diversity of Thought, Intellectual Empathy
    4. Webpage is coming for “The Year of Intellectual Empathy”

## **3. Staff Senate Committee Updates**

- a. Staff Development - Tom Wesley
  - i. The Staff Development grant will expire the end of next week (May 2) Once everything is completed they will send a report out and evaluate how things look for next year.
- b. Parliamentary - Sheryl Kubiak – there are amendments to the bylaws. We will vote on them at the next meeting.
- c. Communication - Mary Jones – no updates
- d. Hospitality/Staff Engagement - Nick Capul – no updates
- e. Staff Recognition - Donna Kerry – no updates