

UNA Staff Senate

March 11, 2024

10:00 AM GUC 200

- I. Call to Order-President Brian Ford began the meeting at 10:00am
- II. Roll Call (Senators, Proxies, & Visitors) Members present and comprising a quorum were: Ms. Jacinta Mastin, Ms. Amanda Willingham, Ms. Janet Jones, Ms. Erin Wittscheck, Ms. Lindsey Goode, Ms. Joy Kelly, Dr. Kathleen Richards, Mr. Jeremy Woods, Mr. Brian Ford, Ms. LaNita Crews, Mr. Jarrod Russell, Ms. Kari-Kay Cassady, Mr. Mickey Price, Ms. Hollon McCullar, Ms. Megan Simmons, Ms. Michelle Aycock, Mr. Jeremy Martin, and Ms. Anna Leigh Rossi. Ms. Taya Beth Sockwell was a proxy for Ms. Mary Harber Ms. Penny Pitts was a proxy for Ms. Marissa Gatlin. Ms. Salena Denton, Ms. Debbie Williams, Ms. Sara Beth Humphres, and Mr. Jose V. Figueroa-Cifuentes, were absent with no proxies.
- III. Approval of Agenda-Ms. Kari-Kay Cassady made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Jeremy Woods seconded and the motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Minutes- Mr. Jeremy Woods made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Kari-Kay Cassady seconded, and the motion carried.
- V. Staff Senate President's Report-President Brian Ford- Mr. Brian Ford and Mr. Jeremy Martin met with President Kitts and Evan Thornton about HyFlex to discuss what was further discussed in the February staff senate meeting after executive council had left. During this meeting concerns were shared in regards to Supervisor's being the sole source of information/deciding factor in HyFlex/days where the university is closed. Mr. Ford included his example of his current supervisor vs. previous supervisor. Mr. Jeremy Martin shared the guidelines/email that he shares with his staff/department during events such as our winter weather week this Spring. Mr. Ford stated that it was mentioned during the meeting that if buildings are open that the building coordinator should be present. It was then suggested that identifying protocol/personnel that should be present on days where the university is closed (such as early in week during winter weather in January) vs. days where the university isn't closed but told to use our best judgment. Mr. Ford stated that he did talk with Catherine White and she is working on drafting guidelines. She said she would be in touch for additional feedback. Mr. Ford stated that President Kitts reiterated that EC was still in active discussions regarding this and that they would be in touch.

Mr. Ford updated on the Provost Search Committee - Virtual interviews with selected candidates took place last week and the plan is to have selected candidates on campus the week before Spring Break.

Mr. Ford discussed [SB 129](#) - a Bill that would prohibit DEI initiatives at public institutions in AL. Mr. Ford encouraged that if you have questions about the bill and how it will affect UNA, can reach out to Minnette Ellis, Associate Vice President & Dean of Students and the Chief Diversity Officer, Diversity & Equity Initiatives. End of Report

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Staff Attitude Survey-President Brian Ford; committee met and made suggested changes that were noted in TEAMS for review
- b. Staff Merit-President Brian Ford said that there are no updates at this time.
- c. Staff Visibility- Ms. Michelle Aycock stated that Alumni Relations gave a \$400 donation and Alumni Association gave a \$600 donation. The committee is looking for a summer date for the visibility event. The committee has voted on using "Chubby Hubby" ice cream truck. Using this would be the most cost-effective and would operate more smoothly and timely.
- d. Distinguished Staff Employee of the Year- Vice President Jeremy Martin stated the committee met and there are two award recipients at the upcoming awards gala.
- e. Staff Affairs- Jeremy Martin stated the committee will meet this upcoming Wednesday to discuss HyFlex.

VII. Unfinished Business- None at this time.

VIII. New Business – Staff Attitude survey updates, staff names were changed on the forms to reflect current names in positions. In addition, the executive council position and current member (Jason Cochran) was added to the form. There was discussion on the spelling of HyFlex, it was determined that the "HyFlex" spelling is what has been used most within the university. No further discussion. Mr. Brian Ford asked for a motion to accept the survey form with committee changes. Ms. Michele Aycock made a motion, and Ms. Kari-Kay Cassady seconded, and the motion carried. President Brian Ford was asked by Molly from institutional research to approve that the same data be used from last year's report. A question was asked as to where the survey results go. Mr. Brian Ford reported that the survey will be sent to institutional research and Qualtrics handles the distribution of the survey to staff. The results of the survey will be reviewed by President Kitts, the Board of Trustees, and published on the Staff Senate website. Mr. Brian Ford asked for a motion

to accept the report. Dr. Kathleen Richards made a motion, and Mr. Jeremy Martin seconded, the motion carried.

- IX. Announcement- The following events in March were shared with Staff Senate: Spring Fling – Sponsored by Health and Well Being on March 13, 2024, Light the Fountain on March 14, 2024, and Lion Under the Lights on March 15, 2024. Those dates are in Teams for you to share with constituents.
- X. Adjournment-Mr. Jeremy Martin made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Jeremy Woods seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

