

September 18, 2025 - Staff Council Meeting Minutes

10.00am: SLC

Staff Present: 19

Introductions

Reading of Previous Minutes:

No issues reported.

Reports of Committees:

Financial Report (Patrick): Started with \$745 available staff scholarships. Awarded \$500 fall semester. \$245 left. General Fund: \$2273, have not spent anything this month.

Scholarship (Kate): Application goes out November 1st, 2025. Deadline December 1st, 2025. Committee will meet within 10 days and coordinate with Financial Aid. Evaluation criteria: academic achievements, community involvement, and financial need. Dependent starting in January 2026 – eligible to apply if already accepted to the university.

BOG Report (Lou): n/a Board met 8/16/25. Next meeting in October. If we have anything let Lou know. October meeting will be bylaw changes – including Sen Bill 3279 changes.

ACCE Rep (Melissa): ACCE Retreat was 7/21/25 –

Speakers:

Candace Layne – Campus Mental Health Impact (HEPC) – there were two grant opportunities she shared which I forwarded to appropriate faculty/staff. She also hosted a Grant Writing Lunch and Learn on 8/8/25 (also forwarded to appropriate staff).

HEPC HR (Taran/Trish) – TIAA Cref currently has \$4.5B with more than 30,000 accounts with balances. They are engaging with a third party, CAPTrust, for fiduciary guidance. HEPC continuing to work on MarketPay, which provides data on job pricing. Keeping the data up to date seems to be a challenge.

Committee Elections: Melissa has been elected as the Chair of the Benefits Committee and will participate in the legislative committee. Amy Pitzer from Concord is the new ACCE President.

Then Joseph Jenkins, HEPC attorney, came and talked about Series 55 and Senate Bill 3279 (BOG Rules Lou has been discussing). Our next meeting is next Friday, 9/26/25 at Marshall University.

In addition, Governor Morrissey had a national advisory firm give a complete evaluation on PEIA with potential changes that could result in \$55M in cost savings = which equates to about 5% of total cost (ex. Reduce nonstate employee memberships, build out anti-fraud function, wellness).

Safety (Sal):

No safety committee meeting in August.

Burglar alarms and panic buttons out of alignment with office moves. Taking some out and adding others.

Hazardous materials – successful removal of those items (every July). Sal sends email in May, so let him know if you have items that need removed.

Concrete concerns – Physical Plant is aware of those concerns/ Rogers/ ADA areas of concern.

Training: 100 courses completed in August by staff, faculty, and students. If your department has training needs, contact Sal.

Parking identification: help police identify lots (ex. Parking Lot C).

Baseball has started. 3-5 days per week. BRIM may not cover losses of employees parking in Campbell and Hughes parking lots. Park at own risk.

Observation deck is done for ADA. Great safety inspection on campus – bleachers are getting inspected (arena, stadium and soccer field) today.

President and Provost updates:

Dr. Borchers:

Procedure 10 updated - Staff and Faculty will be asked to participate in late fall/spring.

AI taskforce - trainings this summer, offered to do a course for staff council.

Staff Council rep on AI taskforce?

No updates on budget.

Enrollment verification done. Will be planning for next year's budget soon.

Website is on track – requests for academic programs, and areas to update content. Late fall early spring rollout hopefully.

External funding taskforce – Betsy, Laura, and Dr. Borchers. Senate Appropriation Bill – we are in it for \$463,000 – police upgrades and one key system for locks

University Planning Committee – discussing experiential learning and community impact.

Homecoming – October 18th (Saturday) through weekend of 24th/25th – celebrating milestone reunions – lunch for 50, 55, 60, and 65 milestones. Football and soccer games on Saturday October 25th.

Bookmark President Sharepoint site.

Dr. Monteroso:

Technology in Academics – moved to Canvas – fully operational this fall. Congrats to Merilee and team.

New software system Student Success and Engagement – Chairs and first year seminar course are using it. Faculty can communicate with students better. Will rollout in January. In pilot phase right now.

App: Bright, student checking app, using gamification, daily check in. Can win prizes for using. Will check on wellness. If struggling, directs them to resources.

Main Hall – Aviation spaces. TopperThrift – moving to 2nd floor of Union. SGA moving to Main Hall, Veterans Lounge – moving to 1st floor of Main Hall. Restrooms are still open, but they are doing work in those areas.

Microcredentials: small programs to get students desired skills. (Ex. Excel). We want to develop 4 – 1 course is dog training in psychology. Badge that says they meet requirements. Ways for students to articulate the skills they have to employers. Gives edge when job searching. Also want to use for upskilling.

Old Business:

FROM JULY:

Steak Fry/ Yard Sale: Not enough interest.

Donation to Middle Creek Elementary: Lions Club took care of students at West Liberty. Challenge other fund managers to match donation. Should we wait and do something in spring after items donated in fall have been used?

Lunch and Learns: Banner budgets, how to get CDL, Student Life/Housing – Cassie, Lisa, and Eric to spearhead those ideas.

New Business:

Jay Morgan, Director of Food Services (Elior): Introduction, Elior out of France. Aladdin restaurant group which caused confusion, so going by Elior now. Expectations and leadership remain the same. Elior Branding. Jay started 4/3/25. Doing great things and appreciating our support, office first door on right on way on the way towards Bears Den. Still doing the packed lunches. Box lunches – they will use students accounts that are on a meal plan.

Good and Welfare:

Graduate Studies update next month.

Staff Awards – University Welcome in January – nominations are open. Staff member that does extraordinary work. Please nominate.

(Lou) Registration for Trick or Treat on Quad. 10/30/25 with WLU Elementary School – nonedible treats. 125 participants last year. 45 stations last year. First Kids on Campus next Monday, 9/22 (also 11/11 and 10/31). K-8.

Adjourned