

Minutes from Staff Senate Monthly Meeting of February 19, 2019

Location: Newcomb Hall, South Meeting Room

Time: 11:00 AM–1:00 PM

**Agenda:**

- Welcome and Announcements
- Advocacy Updates
- Carla Williams: University Hall
- Transportation

**ITEM 1: Welcome and Announcements**

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- Postcards with the Staff Senate's primary goals were distributed.
- Community, strategic, plans were discussed in a special meeting with Louis Nelson. The following top 3 concerns and priorities were given to Louis: Pay and Wages, Early Education (summer camps, early childcare), and Transportation.
- There is a representative from parking coming to the next Staff Senate meeting. While speaking to them next month, please remember they are staff members too.
- The report based on the meeting with Louis Nelson is supposed to be given to President Ryan by Friday the 22nd.
- A Resource Coordinator was supposed to start after the Louis Nelson meeting, but the official start date for the coordinator is not yet known. The Resource Coordinator will help connect staff to community resources like Loaves and Fishes, camps, and childcare. They will be in an office in West Complex 2 days a week, and Old Ivy the other 3 days.

**ITEM 2: Advocacy Update**

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- Advocacy met with the new Benefits Manager, Rebecca Gristina, almost a month ago. The main goal was to discuss retirement healthcare insurance. The current plan with Aetna expires in 2020. The University is involved in an RFP (request for proposal) process and will run that through 2019. The new plan will start 2021.
- Advocacy has been trying to find lower premiums for retirees. During the meeting, Advocacy asked that if during RFP process, the University could include the retiree population. The retiree and active populations are in 2 separate pools. Advocacy asked

them to combine the two to see what the premium will look like. They will do both (pool and un-pool) and see what the quote will look like.

- Advocacy also asked, if you retire on VRS plan 1 or plan 2, can you take the state of Virginia's health insurance when you retire? The answer is no. You can either take UVA's health plan or opt out altogether.
- Advocacy is also working on UVA's telecommuting policy. They are seeing how outdated it is. They want to create a better environment for students, faculty, and staff. They will need a lot of constituents. The project is still in the works and data is still being gathered. Bereavement is not clear, Ms. Kristina is looking to how to make this work.
- If you are interested in any of this, March 6th is the next Advocacy meeting at 315 Old Ivy. There is parking and coffee and tea will be provided.

### **ITEM 3: Carla Williams - University Hall Presentation**

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- Carla has been with UVA since December 11th, 2017.
- The Athletic Department is creating a student development program for student athletes.

#### University Hall and Honesty:

- University Hall has fallen on hard times. There are 400 student athletes in University Hall that need a new home. There is a water issue, the roof system is failing, and the plumbing system needs work. The arena area is currently sealed for asbestos.
- The new training grounds will have a fence and access codes for each athlete and staff member. The teams will each have double wide trailers. The equipment room will be in triple wide trailer. There will be a trailer for nutrition and medicine.

#### Master Plan:

- They are currently raising money for the project. It will be 180 million dollars.
- The teams will be focusing on community outreach, financial literacy. They will be focusing primarily on elementary school aged children, as that age group loves sports.
- There will be a new softball stadium, which is currently at the park. The new stadium will be finished in February 2020.

#### Questions and Answers:

**Q:** It looks like parking will be taken away. What is the plan for that?

**A:** UVA is going through a parking and transportation study right now because so many events happen, but there is no place to park. With the new University Hall project, there can be parking underneath that building. There are plans to replace the spaces that will be taken away by the project.

**Q:** Is there an option to park at the park?

**A:** Yes, you can park at the park and take the shuttle over.

**Q:** Will this new space be rentable for student groups, organizations or faculty?

**A:** Possibly. Pat Lampkin has mentioned it, it is something they were doing before.

**Q:** What is the date of completion?

**A:** It will take 2 years to build the 2 buildings. If everything goes perfectly, we hope to be done by 2021.

**Q:** How much of the master plan was in place when you arrived at UVA?

**A:** None of it.

**Q:** Will we get a UVA Gymnastics Department?

**A:** We are the 12th largest department in the country with about 750 athletes. We can't afford it right now.

**Q:** As far as tickets for the boy's games go, is this something that is going to change? More sports? Maybe some type of deal?

**A:** There are discounts available, but we can do a better job at promoting them.

**Q:** Is there a master calendar of all events?

**A:** Yes, there is. It is on the front page of the website

**Q:** Are there any proceeds from the commonwealth to help fund this project?

**A:** No.

**Q:** So, what's the current bid for the person who demolishes?

**A:** Ralph Sampson will be back for it. There will be several buttons. The men's soccer coach will be pushing one as well.

**Q:** Scott Stadium, are there any plans for renovation to make it more flexible and multisport?

**A:** It's a money thing. We must prioritize. It is on the radar, but the priority is University Hall. Ideally, we would love wider concourses and more premium space. Wi-Fi was added this year.

**Q:** Other than the master plan, what are you most excited about?

**A:** Men's Basketball, football, and looking at recruiting for football and where players rank in their state.

**Q:** You mentioned collaborating with Elementary school kids. What about the other youth?

**A:** It is not limited to Virginia; student athletes have tight schedule. We decided elementary age because we can start to mold their thinking about college. There are more kids participating in sports at that age as they start to drop out as they get to high school.

*\*The Staff Senate skipped constituency corner for this meeting due to time. \**

#### **ITEM 4: Transportation**

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- In Charlottesville, there are a lot of issues that are getting worse in terms of transportation.
- An enhancing mobility in Charlottesville project is currently being worked on.

- 70% of people who work at UVA live in the Valley.
- They will be meeting with the Board of Supervisors for the county.
- Urban planning would like to hear from the senate about main issues.
- There haven't really been focused conversations with UVA employees one on one that focus on main issues.

## **ITEM 5: Chair Summit Panel (Chairs of other representative groups)**

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### **Graduate Programs Council** – Leeza Constantoulakis (School of Nursing)

GPC brings together the leaders of all the graduate school councils in this new representative body.

#### **Goals:**

- Convocation for Grads was new this year and was a success! Keep this going.
- Be involved in national recognition and discussions. Create and deliver a white paper from GPC to administration about graduate student governance and engagement.

### **Faculty Senate** – Ellen Bassett (Urban + Environmental Planning/School of Architecture)

Faculty Senate represents all full-time faculty who are tenured or are on tenure track.

#### **Goals:**

- Work with the President and his Ours to Shape mission to envision the future of the University.
- Use engagement of faculty and other groups through the Summit to push initiatives forward and build good will.

### **Student Council** – Alex Cintron (College)

Student Council represents all students at the University with a strong engagement of the undergraduate population.

#### **Goals:**

- Build resources for students from big to small, including financial ones and health related ones (for example, free feminine products across UVa).
- Use the Summit partners to find overlapping initiatives and use the strong, engaged student voice to push for support and goals at all levels.

### **General Faculty Council** – Keith Weimer (Libraries)

GFC represents all full-time non-tenure track faculty, General Faculty, at the University.

#### **Goals:**

- With the size and growth of the General Faculty at UVa, build our representation and our voice at the University.

**Staff Senate** – Leah Beard and Michael Phillips  
Us!

**Not Present, but in Summit:**

**Medical Center Employee Council** – Eve Dallas

Great opportunity for Summit to be together! These types of conversations just open the door to finding similar initiatives that we can all get behind. The Summit can use each other to find how different groups gain and use resources, overcome barriers, and communicate within their groups, with their constituents, and with administration.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, March 19  
11am to 1pm  
Newcomb Hall South Meeting Room