

# University Staff Committee

November 14, 2023

Via TEAMS

## MINUTES

Present: J. Almquist, J. Azinger, A. Dempsey Fisher, G. Dukes, L. Eastman, C. Parks,  
K. Premeau, R. Sauers

Absent: T. Nation

- I. Call to Order-The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.
- II. MINUTES-The minutes were approved as submitted for the September 12, 2023 Meeting via autoconsent. October's meeting was cancelled so there were no minutes to approve.
- III. Chair update-Chair Dukes would like the USC and other committees such as the Senate to work on ways to make better connections across campus with all University Staff. It was suggested that the University Staff Climate Committee work again on the "Brown Bag" series or perhaps a meet-up or coffee meeting. These could have themes attached to them and help further discussions facing University Staff across Campus. Chair Dukes will reach out to the Climate Committee and see what options will work for them as well as other groups.
- IV. SAAPs-There were some concerns raised about the SAAPs about these policies being vague and difficult to enforce. Facilities refer to buildings but not open spaces such as Spaight's Plaza. Ticketed events could be problematic or open events such as Planetarium, Arts or even Sporting events. The policies need to be better defined. Chair Dukes will send the concerns back to Secretary of the University's office for further revisions.
  - SAAP 6.2-Building Chairperson Policy-AUTOCONSENT
  - SAAP 6.9-Facility Access and Use Policy-AUTOCONSENT
- V. Member reports
  - 10:20 a.m.
- VI. New/Other Business-There was the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.
  - K. Premeau reported that she has been appointed to the Search and Screen for a new Dean of the Arts and Architecture College. It is a short timeline with someone expected to be in place by July 1, 2023.
  - C. Parks reported that the window project for Mitchell Hall is almost complete. It should make heating and cooling the historic building more efficient.
  - R. Sauers reported that she is the appointed member to the Physical Environment Committee and is the representative on the Parking and Transit subcommittee. There are discussions about raising parking fees again and some discussions on

how to alleviate traffic on campus. Raising fees on campus for those that must come to campus can be difficult for University Staff as they are the lowest paid employees and often do not have a choice about commuting or other alternative options. Busing and commuter options have been cut to campus over the years and some schedules do not have these options available to them. R. Sauers will take this feedback to the committee for discussion. Another proposal from the USC would be an sliding scale for lower paid employees or flexible commuting options.

- J. Almquist is the representative to the Chancellor's Advisory Committee for LGBTQ+ issues. Safety and other concerns have come up across campus over the past few years. How can the committee find out how to best serve our campus? The committee felt that a workshop or brown bag discussion might be a good option to discuss issues facing University Staff to get feedback on the climate that is currently on campus. J. Almquist will get in touch with the University Staff Climate Committee to see what options may be available for a survey or even a workshop or discussion group for topics around climate for staff.

Committee website is located here: <https://uwm.edu/secu/us/usc/>