



Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Staff Senate was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 2:00 p.m., in the University Center Auditorium. The June meeting minutes were approved.

Committee Updates:

Curiosity Committee update:

- Staff Book club meetings in July went well. Three books were selected and three different staff facilitated the conversations. Staff participants email Dr. Bryan book suggestions to be picked at random for the next month's meetings.
- Meredith Madison gave a review of the Summer Staff Conference. 164 staff attended with 19 areas/departments represented. Meredith reviewed the survey results.

Administrative Reports were given by:

Assistant Vice Chancellor Laure Pou

- A change has been made to the Funeral and Bereavement Leave policy. The official UT Policy should be updated by end of August to reflect the change which provides additional days of leave.
- The Employee and Organizational Development Consultant position has four virtual candidates scheduled with on-campus interviews to be scheduled for the next round.
- Ombudsperson search is underway. Two finalists have been identified and will be scheduled to come to campus soon.
- DASH transaction transition to individual units is going well and resources remain available to staff.
- Open enrollment is coming. Details on the changes coming are made available to the HR staff on September 1. More information about Open Enrollment will be provided in the September Staff Senate meeting.
- Changes to Human Resources staff include the creation of the "Employee Relations and Wellness" team with Brianna Marchant as Director. Logan Rader has transitioned to a consultant in this team and Kyra Orazi recently hired as a consultant as well.

Campus Conversation with Executive Director of University Center and Campus Recreation Aaron Grisham

Past-President Wells provided a summary of the 2025-26 Staff Senate Survey.

President King called all newly elected Staff Senators to the stage for brief introductions. All Committee Chairs were also announced with a request for committee self-nominations to be submitted by August 21.

During announcements Jason Harville reminded staff about Operation Move-In.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37p.m.