MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
STAFF COUNCIL

General Meeting Minutes

Date: October 14, 2026
Time: 10:30 AM

Location: AOS Conference Room, 2nd floor of Union

Dominique Belcher P
Joni Branning P
Kathy Brown P
Lateshia Butler P
Missy Carter P
Madeline Demetriou P
Lisa Dye P
Cambrie Frizzell P
Libbi Havelin P
Courtney Headley P
Timothy Hopkins P
Hannah Howell P
Ogorchukwu Johnson P
Alena Jones P
Davie Jones P
Derek Klipstein P
Kelly LaSalle P
Allison Matthews P
Nicole Medeiros P
LaKitha Murray A
Samantha Nall P
Ashley Patterson P
Lynn Palmer Purnell P
Elizabeth Pinta P
Jessica Rahim P
Connor Simmons P
Cheron Snow P
Caitlin Telle P
Stacey Wilkinson P
Katelyn Wright P

1. **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES** – For a motion to approve September minutes, Libbi provided the first and Davie the second. The motion passed unanimously and minutes were adopted.

2. **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER FINANCIALS** – For a motion to approve the September financials, Lynn provided the first and Samantha the second. The motion passes unanimously and financials were adopted.

3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Chair – Ashley Patterson

- Alumni Association National Board-no meeting
- Conflict of Interest Committee-no meeting
- Faculty Senate- Meeting was held on September 11th. Bret Harvey from General Council was the guest speaker with representatives from ITS and General Council available to answer questions. He discussed campus wide efforts for accessibility including the following:
    - Canvas courses, online apps, websites and procurement of software etc. all fall under accessibility guidelines.

- There are narrow exceptions including 1) archived web content, 2) preexisting conventional docs such as pdf, Word docs etc., 3) preexisting social media posts, 4) third party posted content, 5) individual password protected documents.
- Exception does not apply for any documents currently used to access university programs, activities, services, or employment.
- There is no longer categorical exemption for Canvas or other LMS content.
- Guidelines for key web accessibility requirements are provided by the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines at the AA level. MSU webpage for accessibility guidelines is at www.web.accessibility.msstate.edu.
- He discussed additional accessibility resources including the Campus Access Committee, MSU Center for Innovation in Teaching Excellence, and ITS. Carmen Kelly, Instructional Designer, discussed Canvas accessibility tools.

Dr. Shaw, Provost and Executive Vice President, provided the following updates:

- The IHL funding formula that is being evaluated. Based on the existing formula, MSU has been underfunded. IHL is looking at performance funding formula with more considerations given to efficiency based on FTE. More updates to come.
- He also discussed progress the University's Committee on Courses and Curriculum (UCCC), including future work of the committee regarding AI, innovation and utilizing the committee more strategically across the university.

- Information Technology Governance Committee (ITGC)-Meeting was held September 17th. Updates include the following:
    - Thomas Ritter, Chief Information Security Officer, discussed phishing attempts targeting employees continue to be a concern. A recent incident targeting faculty resulted in some compromised accounts. Additionally, an incident involving ALTOUR resulted in low-risk data collection but could aid in phishing attacks. Impacted employees were notified in both cases as well as the state ITS office. An accessibility scan is being conducted across websites, and vulnerability management efforts are taking place.
    - Kevin Edelblute, Associate VP for Finance, stated that whenever bank account numbers are changed in MyState/Banner for employees, Treasurer dept procedure is to call the employees to confirm that they are making the change and it is not the result of fraud attempt.
    - OP 01.12 Use of Information Technology Resources was discussed and approved by committee for forwarding to Executive Council.
    - OP 01.13 Policy on World Wide Web Pages and Electronic Publications was discussed with minor revisions approved by the committee for forwarding to Executive Council.

- Master Plan and Develop Advisory Committee-no meeting
- President's Executive Council- Meeting was cancelled but an email vote was requested for OP 70.09 Financial Conflict of Interest in Sponsored Activities for changes to language as required at the federal level, with minor grammatical and clarifying language adjustments. I voted yes on behalf of Staff Council.
- Standing Committee Review Board-no meeting

b) Vice-Chair – Libbi Havelin

- Faculty Housing Appeals Committee-2 appeals both approved
- Parking Survey-Ad Hoc Committee

c) Policies and Procedures Committee Chair – Samantha Nall

- SC Bylaws and Constitution-no update

d) Communications Committee Chair – Allison Matthews

- BullyWatch-Winner has been chosen.
- Newsletter-Went out on the 8th, planning for November to go out the first week of the month.
- Website, Facebook, Twitter-Has been updated, post have been made, not sure if there is an active Twitter account.

e) Awards & Scholarships Committee Chair – Jessica Rahim

- Department Donations/Fundraisers- no update
- Fall Awards- November 12-18-email will go out November 6th with announcement. Application has been updated and ready for start day.

f) Events Committee Chair – Lisa Dye and Ogo Johnson

- Meet & Greet Recap-Great turn out, thank you to everyone that was there.
- Fall Sales Pickup-Nov. 5-7:30am-10am and 3pm-5pm. 428 total sales. Everyone should sign up for distribution day and wear their Staff Council Shirts.
- Staff Development Conference- Dec 15 –Registration will open November 10th

and close December 1st. A conference survey will be sent out on December 15th after conference ends. Everyone should be gathering door prizes. Events committee update: Pepper's has been contacted and we are on the books, Clark has been contacted and drinks ordered to be delivered at 8am, coffee and hot cocoa quotes are being worked on, donuts have been ordered, members are working on vendor list and Event services contacted for walk through (Dec. 14). Policy and Procedure Committee update: updated form that was used last year, will be reaching out to speakers and trying to keep it 8-10 different sessions per time slot. New this year will be SDC Bingo. Awards and Scholarship Committee update: Decided on giveaway items and have received one quote with all items being purchased that were listed, contacting orientation for crowd control barriers, facilities for trash cans and campus police for walk through. Communications Committee update: has contacted tv center for recording welcome and keynote.

4. Ongoing Business

a) MSU's 150th Anniversary (2028): Will table this for now.

b)

5. New Business

a) Staff Appreciation Day will be May 21, location TBD, likely stadium.

11:41 AM Meeting Adjourned

Next scheduled meeting: November 11th, 2026

University Committee Assignments 2026-2027

University Committee	Staff Council Representative (Backup)
Advisory Committee to AI-Subcommittee have been formed.	Davie Jones (Stacey Wilkinson)
Athletic Council-Discussed improvements that have been made.	Lynn Palmer Purnell (Connor Simmons)
Calendar Committee	Connor Simmons (Lynn Palmer Purnell)
Dining Advisory Committee* -No meeting but received gift cards to dining locations to visit.	Courtney Headley (Missy Carter)
Employee Benefits Committee	Lateshia Butler (Dominique Belcher)
Health and Wellness Committee	Elizabeth Pinta (Derek Klipstein)
Instructional Technology Advisory Committee-Met to create/discuss an overview of the committee.	Dominique Belcher (Cheron Snow)
Parking and Traffic Regulations Committee	Timothy Hopkins (Stacey Wilkinson)
Performing Arts Committee	Davie Jones (Madeline Demetriou)
Recreation Advisory Committee	Cambrie Frizzell (LaKitha Murray)
Satisfactory Academic Progress Committee*	Joni Branning (Timothy Hopkins)
Special Events & Game Day Operations	Hannah Howell (Caitlin Telle)
Sustainability Committee-Have not heard anything and believe that this committee is no longer active.	Elizabeth Pinta
Traffic Appeals Committee	LaKitha Murray (Kathy Brown)
Workplace Safety Committee-Met to discuss heaters, workers comp, texting while riding scooters.	Alena Jones (Katelyn Wright)
Work-Life Wellness Committee-Met continue to work on website and will create a newsletter.	Ashley Patterson (Nicole Medeiros)

**not an official university standing committee*

Staff Council Committee Assignments 2026-2027

Communications Committee
Allison Matthews – CHAIR
Stacey Wilkinson
Connor Simmons
Lynn Palmer Purnell
Madeline Demetriou
Davie Jones

Policies and Procedures Committee
Samantha Nall – CHAIR
Elizabeth Pinta
Dominique Belcher
Lateshia Butler
Cambrie Frizzell
Timothy Hopkins

Awards & Scholarships Committee
Jessica Rahim – CHAIR
Nicole Medeiros
LaKitha Murray
Joni Branning
Alena Jones

Events Committee
Lisa Dye – CO-CHAIR
Ogo Johnson – CO-CHAIR
Missy Carter
Hannah Howell
Courtney Headley
Kathy Brown
Caitlin Telle
Derek Klipstein
Cheron Snow
Katelyn Wright