

**Mississippi State University Staff
Council Meeting Minutes**

September 11, 2019 @ 10:30 a.m.
Sanderson Center Conference Room

ATTENDANCE: (P) = Present (A) = Absent

P Amy Adkerson*	P Nathan Gregory*	P Anna Sparks*
P Caleb Alford	P Lilli Harris	P Cristi Stevens
A Heather Andrews*	P Jan High	A Yolanda Tate
P Zac Ashmore*	P Angela Hill	A Jessica Thornton
P Amanda Baine	A Melissa Inmon	P Ronnie White
A Susan Brooks*	P Kelly LaSalle	P Catherine Williams
A Julie Burt	A Paul McKinney	P Tiffney Williams
P Melanie Chesser	P Ardra Morgan	A Lynn Wyman
P Jason Cory	A Suzanne Parker	
P Austin Dillard*	P Kenner Patton	
P Stephanie Green	A Mashala Pulliam	*Executive Board
P Savannah Greenlee	A Yvett Roby	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the August 2019 meeting were approved. Motion to approve by Nathan Gregory and seconded by Anna Sparks.

FINANCE REPORT: The August financial reports were reviewed. Motion to approve by Ronnie White and seconded by Nathan Gregory. The general fund shows \$14,344.51; the foundation account shows \$18,200.76, and the scholarship fund shows \$41,045.34.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Susan Seal from the Center for Distance Education spoke at the September meeting. She shared with the group that the center is rebranding distance education to be “Mississippi State Online.” By the end of the school year, they project to have 50 degree programs available through online offerings. This will include all levels – bachelors, masters, and PhD programs. The Center is comprised of three units. The academic unit supports the students in terms of advising. The technology unit supports students and faculty from the tech side, and the marketing unit markets the unit and its programs through various media outlets.

CHAIR’S REPORT (Zac Ashmore)

Master Plan and Develop Advisory Committee –Next meeting postponed until October 10.

The Alumni Association National Board – no meeting.

The Faculty Housing Appeals Committee – 1 appeal was approved.

President’s Executive Council – Next scheduled meeting is September 23.

Staff Development Conference – Scheduled for Dec. 17. No additional updates.

Faculty Senate – Jason Cory reported on the meeting. Eight AOPs were sent to committee. An Adhoc committee was formed to look at the evaluation of teaching. Dr. Brent Fountain presented the results of the advising survey that was conducted with the students last spring. The Physician Assistant program on the Meridian campus is working toward gaining accreditation.

Vice CHAIR’S REPORT (Nathan Gregory)

Meeting Speakers: Michael Lane from the Idea Shop will speak at the October meeting.

President’s Committee on Planning – No updates.

Information Technology Council – Employees may now be upgraded to Windows 10 on PCs for no charge. ITS is still working to be able to offer this service to Mac users. The rollout of Microsoft Teams is ongoing. The msu1x wireless network will be turned off soon. All users are being asked to use the eduroam network. Eduroam is a network that will allow users to automatically connect to the eduroam network when visiting other institutions. Updates on the IT Risk/Security Assessment and Maroon U module were given.

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of MS Foundation – nothing new to report.

EVENT COMMITTEE REPORT (Anna Sparks)

- We will plan to have a presence on the Extension conference agenda in late October.
Possibly hold our February or March meeting on the Meridian campus.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE (Heather Andrews)

- No updates.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (Austin Dillard)

- Bully Watch winner for August is Nick Gordon from the Dean of Students office. Council members need to put a bio on the common drive to be used for Staff Spotlight in the newsletter.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE (Amy Adkerson)

- The fall scholarship application deadline will be Oct 1.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- SC seat for Division of Research & Economic development – Zac to send an email.
- Extension conference is Oct. 31. We will try to be on the agenda to make a brief presentation and also have a sales table.

NEW BUSINESS

- The conflict of interest committee contacted Zac and asked if Staff COuncil wanted to remain on

that committee. It does not meet regularly and focuses on faculty issues. Caleb suggested we maintain a presence and the Council agreed.

- Discussion was held regarding the jacket samples for the Homecoming sale. Austin Dillard showed on the screen what the logos would look like on the various colored jackets. An email vote will be taken to finalize the plan. Some comments included:
 - o White jackets would be hard to keep clean and could be considered less flattering.
 - o Some feel that a hood is a desirable feature.
 - o How much lining inside the jacket is best?
 - o \$30 was suggested as a possible sales price.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Only three committees had reports for this meeting.

Athletic Council – Samantha Ricketts was introduced as the new head softball coach. GPA is over a 3.0 for the 4th year. MSU had 13 teams in the postseason over the 2018-19 school year. Infractions penalties have been levied.

Instructional Technology Advisory Committee – the committee is making recommendations for classrooms in which to upgrade the technology. The cost is about \$30,000 per room.

Special Events and Game Day Committee – Extra trash cans will be placed in tailgating areas to help combat the postgame trash issues. The idea of considering certain areas of the Junction if too much trash is left has been considered. A cooling tent and cooling buses will be available at upcoming games to help fans with the extreme heat. Southern Tailgate tents were not allowed to remain up all week between consecutive games. Committee will meet again on Sept. 11.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Adkerson, Staff Council Secretary