



STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 10, 2025 - 10:00 AM ITS Conference Room

- I. Call to Order was promptly at 10 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Perrin Rickenbaker, Grant Stone, Kenneth Roach, Anthony Lepore, Brittany Chadwick, Corey Anthony, Austin Gregory, Anna Crawford, Ryan Murdock, Karen Petit, Brittany Brissey

Excused absences: Buck Billings, Pleshette Elmore, Wyatt McInerney, Kendra Rogers, Sydney Stanley
- III. **Guest Report:** Casey Cline, Director of Lander's Office of Workforce & Career Development, began her new position in January. A new teleprompter has been added on campus to promote internship and career opportunities and also to show parents visiting campus that the University has a career office to help students land internships and jobs in their fields. The Career Fair, held in the spring, drew 50 employers and the most students ever. For the fall, plans are underway for each of Lander's colleges to have their own Career Fest on Sept. 24 and 25.

This office is also working a program, "Coffee and Connect," to give students the opportunity to meet in casual settings with employers who have internships and jobs to offer. Students will register to participate in the sessions. Another program with alumni is focused on mentoring students. A small program will begin at the start of the academic year and continue in the spring. It will give students a chance to network with alumni mentors who can help them develop their professional lives.

The Clothes Closet, previously part of the Bear Necessities Food Pantry, will move to the Career Center, and donations of professional clothing will be accepted.

The office also is looking for work-study opportunities for students who don't get work study jobs on campus. An example would be a nursing student assisting a community member needing assistance with a family member, such as respite care.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Grant to approve the minutes of the June 12 meeting, with a second by Brittany Chadwick.
- V. **Chair Report:** Brittany Brissey welcomed the new members of Staff Senate and updated members on upcoming Staff Senate meetings.
- VI. **Division Announcements:** Two more orientations sessions are planned for incoming freshmen, graduate applications were closing July 10 at 5 p.m.; new hires have been made in admissions,

Staff Senate Mission Statement

The Lander University Staff Senate exists to enhance the welfare of its staff; to serve as a liaison between staff, administration, faculty, and students; and to advise the administration on matters concerning the staff. This focus provides staff a voice to promote a positive, respectful work environment that sustains both personal and professional growth. In support of the university's strategic plan, specifically the goal of remaining an employer of choice, the senate strives foremost to contribute to the overall success of Lander University and its students.

athletics and University Advancement, and the University's budget for 2025-26 has been approved.

- VII. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Brittany Chadwick for the Staff Senate to adjourn the regular meeting and have an executive session. Austin seconded the motion.

Executive Session

- I. **New Senators:** Staff Senate members had a chance to talk informally with new Staff Senators.
- II. **Committee Assignments:** Staff Senate members voted on the committees on which they wanted to serve, including Professional, Communications and Employee Appreciation and Recognition. Brittany Brissey said the committee assignment choices would be sent to those members who were absent.
- III. **Staff Senate Officers:** Brittany Brissey said ballots would be sent via email to Staff Senate members to vote on the available officer positions, including Chair-Elect (must have been a Staff Senate member for at least six months), Secretary and Treasurer.
- IV. **Open Discussion and Planning:** Among the topics discussed
- Have Staff Senate ask people in their divisions what they want from Staff Senate.
 - Examine what initiatives have worked.
 - Opportunities to hold more events/activities for staff.
 - Parking spaces reserved for students or community members who are expectant mothers.
 - Staff Senate cannot carry forward money left from the 2024-25 fiscal year into 2025-26. The budget for the upcoming year is \$1,500.
 - Review and update the “perks” available to staff members, such as local discounts offered by restaurants and stores; tickets to Carowinds and/or Biltmore.
- V. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.

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