
GFCSSA Meeting Minutes

Call to order

A meeting of [Great Falls College Staff Senate Association](#) held in [Room G122](#) on [4/18/2019](#). Senators in attendance included [Laramie Smovir](#), [Priscilla Azure](#), [Ben Truman](#), [EJ Suek](#), [Samantha Fairhurst](#) and [Shannon Marr](#). Others in attendance included [Cheryl McGee](#), [Taylor Alexander](#), and [Denise Ostberg](#). Meeting called to order at 1:30 PM.

Approval of minutes

The March 21st and April 9th meeting minutes sent out via email to all constituents. A motion initiated to approve the minutes with the correction of Ben and Kayla's last name, no one opposed, motion passed. Minutes approved unanimously.

Informational Items

I. Online suggestion box discussion – Laramie mentioned we received several comments/suggestions through the online suggestion box:

- Two of the comments were in regards to the previous April 9th meeting in regards to posting the meetings which was addressed in Laramie's speech at the beginning of that meeting so those suggestions were set aside because they were already addressed.
- The next comment is in regards to the Tobacco Policy and the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act. Since we have already voted on the tobacco policy, the comment (below) will be forwarded to the Executive Team.

I think before someone tries to pass a new Policy, they should have read, and understood this information on the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act. This act that was quoted in the meeting has nothing to do with the Smoking/Nicotine Policy that is trying to be passed at the school. The Clean Air Act is for Indoor Air Quality not what the Senate has portrayed it to be for outdoor quality. Please read the act and understand it. I say the school should start over with passing of a new policy. This Act Doesn't apply to Private Vehicles Title 50 Chapter 40-104.

Montana Annotated Title 50 Chapter 40.

Montana Clean Indoor Air Act

The Montana legislature passed the Clean Indoor Air Act (CIAA), one of the most important public health policies in state history, in 2005.

The law requires all enclosed public places and workplaces, including work vehicles, or vehicles that serve as a place of work, and vehicles accessible to the public, such as taxis and buses to be smokefree; and it requires businesses to prominently place smokefree signs on all public entrances. The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services has adopted these rules.

The health benefits of the Clean Indoor Air Act are three-fold:

Patrons and workers alike are protected from the deadly health effects of secondhand smoke exposure.

More people who smoke will try to quit.

Fewer Montana youth will begin smoking.

A response and clarification was made that the Tobacco Task Force made reference to the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act because Montana Code 50-40-102 is in the policy and states "that the right to breathe smoke-free air has the priority over the desire to smoke." Montana Code 50-40-102 falls under the policy of the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act.

- The first suggestion was adding the By-laws to the GFCSSA webpage. Laramie responded by stating they should be, there was an oversight on Tony's part but they are posted and active now.
- The second suggestion was adding the recordings to the GFCSSA webpage because the meeting minutes do not tell it all as they are a condensed version on what was said in the meeting. Discussion will be continued after talking to IT.

II. GFCSSA Webpage discussion: What goes on it?

- Open discussion on adding recording of meeting minutes to webpage with the caveat on talking to IT on server space or other options.
 - Other options? We do not know at this time, will have to do further investigating.
 - Available upon request – due to server space issue
 - More complete minutes rather than condensed version - not in favor of more in depth minutes, they are in depth already
 - Communicate if you are interested attend the live WebEx meeting
 - Public comment – create a folder in shares drive? Audio and video take up a lot of space. In addition, a Staff Senate folder has been established in the shares drive; currently Laramie, Tony and Priscilla have access to it. Arne is open to granting access to others; however, it would be a manual process and one at a time.
 - Public comment – what about having the recording available for one week after the meeting? Further discussion on having one recording available at a time, which should not take up too much space. EJ stated if it is just audio, it would be fine. If someone attends the meeting via WebEx then there is a possibility for video and audio. EJ asked what the WebEx format is, which is .wtf; however, it needs to be downloaded from the WebEx site onto your computer before you can listen to it or converted to a different format such as mp3 or mp4. If they are condensed small enough, there could be multiple recordings posted to the Staff Senate webpage.
 - Reminder that recordings are available to everyone so some employees may be intimidated to voice their opinion or comment because they know their managers or Dr. Wolff can listen to the meetings. Nothing inappropriate is mentioned at our meetings or would be but just a reminder that some employees are sensitive to this subject.
 - Motion made to table discussion until Laramie has a chance to talk to IT, Ja, and Tony on possibility of posting our recordings to our webpage. Vote will be on the agenda for next meeting.
- Become a member link – at one time, it was mentioned to have a link added to the webpage for those interested in becoming a Senator. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

III. Meeting invitations discussion

- Whom do we send the meeting invitations to? Currently, they are being sent to the Distribution list – Benefits Eligible Classified. Not everyone is on this distribution list. Do we want to send reminders to “everyone?” Priscilla does not have access to the Distribution list – everyone so either it will need to go through Lorene or Priscilla includes multiple distribution lists.
 - Most not in favor for the Distribution List – everyone
 - Suggestion was made to make it upon request. If someone wants the reminders or meeting invites then they can request it. No one opposed on making the “become a member” link into the “request a calendar invite” link.

IV. Update on Tobacco Policy 601.3

- Recommendations/revisions went to ET and they sent it out for public comment without our revisions. Laramie questioned it and the response was the following:

“Those recommendations were not overlooked and were included in the discussion with the Executive Team. 1) The Executive Team decided to leave the sentence as is, as the Financial Aid Office will follow policy when student scholarships are considered. GFC MSU does not sponsor tobacco related scholarships that I am aware of. 2) The Executive Team decided to move forward with the requirements allowing us to be placed on the national tobacco-free campus list. If the policy names a designated tobacco use area, even in personal vehicles, we are still allowing tobacco use on campus, thus not tobacco free.”

- If you feel very strongly about this subject, you should take your public comment to the Executive Team. Laramie mentioned she will be sending a comment regarding the scholarship recommendation.

Action Items

- I. Letter of resignation from Terri Jarvey – Priscilla will send an email to this division informing them of Terri’s resignation and asking for nominations.

New Business

- I. Election time – Officer positions (President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer) are up for a vote in May. Nominations are currently being accepted, forward to Priscilla. Vote will be held at the next meeting.
 - Are the current officers entertaining ideas on keeping your position? Laramie said yes, Priscilla said no not at this time but things can change, Tony not present to answer.
 - Are the ballots on the webpage? Not at this time.
 - What are the term limits? Senators will serve a two-year term; each term beginning July 1. Staff Senators must have served a minimum of one year to be eligible for an elected office. 2. Elected officers will serve a one-year term, each term beginning July 1.

Adjournment

A motion was initiated to adjourn the meeting, no one opposed, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 PM.

Priscilla Azure
Secretary

4-30-2019
Date