



WKU STAFF SENATE

Monthly Meeting – March 5th, 2025 (10:00 AM) DSU 2081

View Full Meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJWnkkzqqXE>

Call to Order: 10:00 AM CST

Roll Call: 18 Senators in attendance; in person and via Zoom.

Approval of the Agenda & Prior Monthly Meeting Minutes: Both approved by unanimous consent.

Christopher Ware Staff Star Awards

Nick Lamattina, Athletics

Tommy Newton, Communications and Marketing

Jarrold Smith, Psychological Sciences

Guest Speaker

- Robert Huffman, Resident District Manager, WKU Restaurant Group
 - Robert Huffman gave updates from WKU Restaurant Group and answered questions submitted in advance from staff. Highlights include:
 - WKU Restaurant Group has ~400 employees; 150-170 WKU students/interns. They have 18 retail restaurants and 2 convenience stores.
 - Local Partners: Eiffel (Lexington) and Spencer's Coffee (Bowling Green). There are four local businesses that students can use meal plan dollars to purchase food: El Maz, Donatos, Awaken Bakery, and 30 Bird.
 - Sustainability: Fresh Food and Chick-fil-a are Green Certified restaurants. WKU Restaurant Group composts, recycles cardboard, and reclaims cooking oil.
 - There are 9,000-10,000 students on Meal Plans. WKU Restaurant Group has approximately 8,000-11,000 transactions a day. They served 2,209,000 guests in 2024.
 - Staff redeemed 8,800 free meals in 2024.
 - Renovations: DaVinci's Cafe in Snell Hall was just remodeled. Simple Selections, Fresh Food's allergen free station, will be going through renovation and a transition to True Balance. This summer

Starbucks and Chick-fil-a will go through renovations. A temporary coffee kiosk will be set up in front of Burrito Bowl.

- SNAP benefits will be available at POD in Bates in the next few months.
 - Food Insecurity: WKU Restaurant Group has been working with other campus partners to implement a program called *Swipe it Forward*. Students will be able to donate meal swipes for students in need.
 - There will be a new coffee shop/café in the new GFCB building. It will open in the fall.
 - Implemented the Big Red waffle maker in Fresh Food.
 - Free Meal Swipe: This is a partnership with WKU that is a split cost between Aramark and WKU. Dr LaRoche shared that one meal per month is expensive and they are unable to offer more. WKU Restaurant is looking into options like staff discounts or other places to use their meal. It is easier to implement in Aramark restaurants and not the franchise restaurants.
 - WKU Restaurant is working with Grubhub to implement alternate ways to order food. Transitioning from standing in line to mobile orders has helped serve more students. Road Trip, Eiffel Pizza, Spencer's, and Rising Roll still do traditional ordering in The Commons. Hopefully in the fall there will be kiosks available to order food.
 - Summer: Fresh and the Coffee Kiosk will be open. Other restaurants will be dependent on what is going on around campus. They are still looking at the summer schedule.
- Watch full remarks at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJWnkkzgqXE>.
 - WKU Restaurant Group encourages anyone with questions to reach out via email at wkurg@wku.edu.

Officer, Committee, and Staff Regent Reports

- **Staff Regent – Jennifer Hammonds**

- There was a Board of Regents meeting on February 14th. Committee meetings were in the morning with the quarterly meeting in the Afternoon.
- Academic Affairs: Had the typical new program and sabbatical approvals.
- SACS will be on campus next week. They can ask to speak to anyone.
- Budget and Finance:
 - Acceptance of auditor's report and financial statements, WKYU-TV and WKYU-FM Radio for year ended June 30, 2024.

- Acceptance of accountant's report on application of agreed upon procedures, NCAA compliance report for the year ended June 30, 2024.
 - Approval of 2024-2025 statement of revenue & expenditures.
 - Everything approved in committee meetings was approved in the quarterly meeting.
- **Communications – Deanna Jenkins:** No Report
- **Treasurer – Andria Henry**
 Treasurer's Report
 March 2025
 AS OF 3/4/2025, FY25:

 E&G Index – 100600
 - Starting Balance = \$3,493.24
 - Additions = \$0.00
 - Disbursements = \$0.00
 - Ending Balance = \$3,493.24
 WKUF Account (Staff Senate Excellence Fund) – 1108600
 - Starting Balance = \$2,215.12
 - Additions = \$15.00
 - Disbursements = \$0.00
 - Ending Balance = \$2,230.12
 CHF Account (Book Scholarship) – 800139
 - Starting Balance = \$1,909.84
 - Additions = \$15.00
 - Disbursements = \$0.00
 - Ending Balance = \$1,924.84
- **Technology – Kent Johnson:** No Report
- **Parliamentarian – Jordan Ray:** No Report
- **Secretary – Morgan Moran:** No Report
- **Vice-Chair – Leslie Vanderpool:** No Report
- **Chair – Tanya Vincent**
 - The BEC met yesterday.
 - John Mark Francis from enrollment management gave an update on application and yield. They are continuing to work on recruitment and applications are currently up 4.2 percent with 324 additional students admitted for the fall semester.
 - Renaldo Domoney gave a budget development update. He shared information but no actions were taken.

- Chair Vincent met with President Caboni on Feb. 24th. He was supportive about Aramark coming to today's meeting. He will be attending the spring Meet and Greet as a guest. Chair Vincent brought up concerns with the Sodexo contract. They are still looking at that and making evaluations.
- Ombudsperson: Chair Vincent forwarded everyone the email from HR. Are there any further updates or suggestions before she forwards the comments to HR? It mirrors the faculty Ombudsperson role.
- Micah Logan from CITL reached out asking if there is any interest in an additional Staff professional development day. It will be a half-day event. Chair Vincent asked if the Senate believed there is interest in having a PD Day. Discussion by the Senate showed that there is interest.
- Chair Vincent spoke to the Staff Leadership Institute a couple weeks ago about Staff Senate.

Old Business:

- Spring 2025 Meet and Greet Update:
 - The Spring Meet and Greet is on Tuesday, March 11th from 10am-11:30am. Remarks will be at 10:30am.
 - 81 people will be recognized. Please wear your Staff Senate shirt.
- 2025-2026 Senate Elections: The Executive committee will meet next week to set dates and determine how many seats need to be filled. Chair Vincent will email after dates are set.

New Business:

- Senate Budget Update: Senator Henry shared with Staff Senate about the Senate Budget. The Staff Senate budget is \$3,700 and does not carry forward. Our current balance is \$3,500. Some money is set aside to restock towels and frames, for the Meet and Greet, and workshop lunch. We have ~\$1,100 left. It was suggested that we do something philanthropic with the funds. There are limitations on how you can spend the E&G funds. Senator Henry opened the floor for suggestions and discussion. Suggestions included scantrons and blue books and Fresh Food vouchers.
 - Chair Vincent made a motion to spend \$1,493 on purchasing Staff Senate Towels. The motion was seconded by Senator Hess and passed unanimously.
 - Chair Vincent made a motion to approve \$500 for our summer workshop lunch. The motion was seconded by Senator Hess and passed unanimously.
 - Please send any ideas on how to spend the funds to Chair Vincent and Senator Henry.

Public Comment: None

Announcements & Notable Events:

- Next Staff Senate Meeting: April 2nd, 2025, 10:00 AM

Adjournment: 11:30 AM CST