

**University of Louisville Staff Senate
Vice Chair's Report
Monday, September 9, 2019**

I hope that everyone has had a good start to the fall semester. In my day job, we've held three major events—each averaging right around 300 participants—for the Honors residence hall in the past three weeks. Now, we shift into advising season, and recruitment for next year's entering class is already well underway.

Meetings Attended

- Second week of August: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- August 9: Met with Physical Plant *ad hoc* committee chair Barbara Bishop to learn about the committee's work to date
- August 12: Conducted orientation for new staff senators with Chair John Smith; five new senators attended discussions of expectations, committee work, and general questions
- August 20: Staff Grievance Committee orientation meeting; learned about HR, ombuds, SGO, and SGC processes
- August 22: Meeting of the PED committee
- August 23: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- August 26; Staff Senate Executive Committee meeting
- September 3: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- September 4: Physical Plant *ad hoc* committee meeting
- September 4: Staff Senate leadership meeting with Sr. Assoc. VP for Operations Mark Watkins (feat. VP for Finance and Administration/CFO Dan Durbin)
- **Ongoing conversations:** shared leave policy; proposed policy changes to paying staff for teaching; upcoming changes to benefit rates; feedback and polling for full-body senate meetings; homeless population surrounding U of L; U of L purchase of Jewish Hospital

Meetings I Missed

- Staff Senate Executive Committee meeting for July (vacation)
- PED committee meeting for July (vacation)
- Staff Grievance Committee Chair Jason Beare (primary job responsibilities)
- August 14 BoT meeting where they announced the deal to buy Jewish Hospital (ULAA Board Members were invited but not required to attend; Honors was all-hands-on-deck for move-in at Kurz Hall)

Mentimeter Questions from the July Staff Senate Meeting

- **Can someone do a flowchart explaining how UL, UMC, ULP, ULF, Jewish, Norton's all interconnect?** We can work on getting something for the existing U of L-related entities. As for how Jewish fits into that picture, we don't know yet, and their current employees may be absorbed in various place in U of L, ULP, and UMC.
- **I would love the opportunity to attend a primer for those interested in the ongoing situation related to HSC.** There should be more details on the Norton and Jewish deals as they get done. In the meantime, we can look into some sort of informational meeting and will circulate news as we can.

- **Will the savings from the gym help offset the health insurance premium increase that will occur?** Yes, but the savings from closing Humana Gym will not be nearly enough to offset the actuarial projections for the university's benefits costs next year. So, there will still be an increase.
- **Back to HSC Staff. Will S[taff] S[enate] have any input when they start moving staff to ULH[...]? Worried that HSC staff will no longer be UL employees.** TBD. Our understanding about the Jewish Hospital deal is that we expect to add U of L employees as a result.
- **I have a colleague who is interested in an at-large seat [...].** Not sure exactly where this particular question was going but, if you have questions about the process of becoming a senator or need related information, please let us know. [ABG]
- **Could we get a bullet-point list of what everyone posted on the topics?** I am pretty sure that the post-its from the July Staff Senate meeting were typed up and sent out back in July but, if you're missing the info, please let us know. [ABG]

Thanks to John Smith for help with HSC- and benefits-related questions.

Looking Ahead

- **Committee Reporting and Communication:** As a sort of standing announcement, please remember to submit reports from all staff senate and university-wide committees. If you have any news to report between full-body senate meetings, please let us know. If you are on a university-wide committee that has not been active (that is, met or reached out over email) this year or whose meeting schedule has become irregular, please let Andrew know.
- **Reporting Staff News:** I haven't been keeping exact statistics, but I feel like I've been seeing a bit more news about staff swirling around recently. Please keep sending stories to U of L Today and the Staff Senate office, and please keep thinking of ways to highlight the achievements of staff in the campus community and beyond.
- **New Employee Orientation:** When I first became a staff senator, I heard people talking about instituting (restoring?) some kind of Staff Senate presence in new employee orientation. I am looking at some ways to accomplish this, and please let me know if you have any ideas or suggestions.
- **Task Force on Tuition and Fee Setting (TFTFS):** I'll be representing Staff Senate on this committee this year. It meets for the first time today, September 9, at 3:30 PM. It's my next stop after Staff Senate.
- **U of L Athletic Association Board:** This committee has not met yet. The first meeting is scheduled for October 18.
- **Physical Plant *ad hoc* committee:** If you are interested in issues affecting Physical Plant staff, please consider joining this committee. If you'd like to attend a meeting or share ideas, contact the committee's chair, Barbara Bishop.
- **Main job:** I'll be in Paducah and Land Between the Lakes from September 13-15 for the Brown Fellows Program Kentucky Connection trip. The Honors advising window runs from September 9 through October 25. I'm also learning how to access the new online scholarship application system (hopefully before applications are due on December 15).

Getting in Touch

Please feel free to reach out to me at andrew.grubb@louisville.edu or (502) 852-1482. I can't promise an instant reply, but I've enjoyed hearing from people, and I'm usually up for a chat. If you have any topics you want to discuss—or suggestions for things to look into—please let me know.

--Submitted by Andrew Grubb