

**University of Louisville Staff Senate
Vice Chair's Report
Tuesday, December 8, 2020**

We have just about made it to the end of the Fall 2020 semester, and I think that achievement stands on its own, without elaboration. I hope you all know how proud I am of you and how much I appreciate your efforts to keep the university going *and* to support each other through all of the work, anxiety, uncertainty, and loss. Good luck wrapping up the year, and I hope that the holidays provide abundant opportunity for rest, reset—and, dare I say, even some happiness. Stay safe and take care.

Meetings Attended

- November 11: Provost candidate #4 w/Faculty and Staff Senate Executive Committees
- November 16: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- November 17: General counsel candidate #1 w/ Staff Senate Executive Committee
- November 17: Staff Senate Executive Committee meeting
- November 18: (Spring) Scenario Planning—Academic committee meeting
- November 19: SME (SMCO) committee meeting
- November 19: PED committee meeting
- November 20: General counsel candidate #2 w/Staff Senate Executive Committee
- November 20: A&S Faculty Assembly
- November 23: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- December 1: Staff Senate Executive Committee meeting
- December 3: General counsel candidate #3 w/Staff Senate Executive Committee
- December 3: (Spring) Scenario Planning—Academic committee meeting
- December 4: General counsel candidate #4 w/Staff Senate Executive Committee
- December 7: Staff Senate leadership monthly meeting with Mark Watkins, et al.

Meetings Missed

- November 13: (Spring) Scenario Planning—Academic committee meeting (day job conflict)
- December 7: Staff Senate Executive committee meeting to recap general counsel candidates

Committee work/looking ahead

- **NEW AND IMPROVED spiel on committees and reporting:** Please remember to submit written reports from all staff senate and university-wide committees. Okay, the “new and improved” part is mostly that this is shorter than it was. As one Teams meeting melts into the next, please remember to keep the information flowing, and thanks for your diligence in doing so up to this point.
- **Ad hoc committee on anti-racism efforts:** The committee meets again on Wednesday, December 16, 2020. We will discuss an internal committee survey about priorities for our work before the *ad hoc* committee transitions into a standing committee (with a projected date of February 2021 for the final reading into the bylaws). The committee is

considering ways to make connections and engage in other preparations to expedite the work of the standing committee once it forms.

- **Fall/Spring Scenario Planning—Academic:** The committee continues to meet regularly. The committee canceled its Monday, December 7, meeting and is next scheduled to meet on Thursday, December 17. Major topics at the December 3 meeting included ongoing response to profiling in Respondus; discussion of student responses to the recent RealCards survey; and a conversation about the December 1 enrollment report. The committee also talked about marketing efforts underway to highlight what the university has done during the pandemic to protect and promote undergraduate education.
- **U of L Athletic Association Board (ULAA):** The board has not met since October 23 (see previous report). The next scheduled meetings, for the Finance & Budget committee and the full board, are Friday, January 15, 2021.
- **Provost’s advising task force:** This committee is still in a holding pattern. There is reason to believe we may see a draft report on the committee’s recommendations before 2020 is over, and the committee will then review it and reconvene to discuss the report.
- **Main job:** It’s almost application-reading season—maybe my favorite time of the work year. The deadline for Brown Fellows is December 15. Between then and mid-January, a team of eight readers will review c. 250 applications for the scholarship, and the selection process will stretch through (virtual) interviews in mid-March. At the same time, we’re planning how to adapt our usual spring program activities as we approach pandemic year two. The adventure never ends.

Getting in Touch

Please feel free to reach out to me at andrew.grubb@louisville.edu or (502) 852-1482 (forwarding), especially during this trying time. I am always glad to take questions or discuss current issues. In the meantime, stay safe, and hang in there.

--Submitted by Andrew Grubb