

**University of Louisville Staff Senate
Vice Chair's Report
Tuesday, September 14, 2021**

If March comes in like a lion, as the meteorologists say, the new academic year arrives like some crazy interdimensional space beast. With COVID-related challenges and erratic enrollment stretching orientation across the entire summer in a way we had not really seen before, there was about half a second to breathe before we launched back into planning and prep for Fall 2021—and then it's move-in, and then it's welcome week, and then it's the first day of class, and now on to midterms and beyond. While it has been great to see students and colleagues in person, we are still adjusting COVID World, even after 18 months of living in it. And the adjustments will have to continue, daily, as we chase some sort of new normal that never quite solidifies. So, as we celebrate being back on campus and engage the new challenges it brings, I just wanted to say thanks to everyone for their determination, perseverance, and persistence in the belief that we'll get through this. Please continue supporting each other, and thank you for everything you do for the university.

Meetings Attended

- July 6: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- July 7: Staff Senate leadership meeting with Mark Watkins, Mary Elizabeth Miles, Chief Lewis

[July 9-July 23: away on vacation]

- July 27: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- July 27: Staff Senate EC meeting

[July 31-August 10: in NYC with Brown Fellows Program]

- August 10: New senator orientation meeting
- August 16: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- August 23: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- August 24: SME committee meeting
- August 27: ULAA special meeting
- August 30: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- September 6: Staff Senate leadership meeting
- September 8: Staff + Faculty Senates EC/XC COVID advisory meeting
- September 10: Staff Senate EC special meeting

Committee work

- **COVID Academic Scenario Planning Committee** (formerly known as Pivot to Fall, formerly known as Spring Forward): This committee has resumed meeting regularly, every two weeks, after winding down during spring and summer. I have not been able to make it to recent meetings due to a direct scheduling conflict, but I will be able to attend the next meeting (9/16).

- **U of L Athletic Association Board (ULAA):** The board convened for a special meeting on short notice on August 27, with the entire meeting held in executive session. The next regular meeting of the board is the annual meeting, scheduled for October 22. If you have any questions about ULAA matters, please let me know.

Getting in Touch

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

--Submitted by Andrew Grubb