September 16, 2015
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:
Martha Alvarez, Vanessa Arredondo, Nadya Balabanova, Raamen Bass, William Brooks, Adrian Doyle, Sharon Dukesherer, Cathy Foote, Brianne Gilbert, Jason Hanchar, Joel Lawson, Chris Lechner, Briana Maturi, Reggie Melonson, Nicole Murph, Kris Okimoto, John Orozco, Fred Puza, Humberto Solis, Mason Stockstill, Jennifer Westendorf, Ashley Wilson, Trevor Wiseman, Michelle Yeung

General Updates:

- **Staff Climate Survey**
  - All senators are invited to attend an upcoming meeting with the Principal Investigator
    - Thurs. September 24th, 1-2pm, UH 4820 Front Conference Room
  - There will also be a larger meeting for the LMU staff community
    - Wed. September 23, 2015, 5-6pm, ECC 1857
    - Refreshments will be served
  - Following the senate’s discussion at the August meeting, John Orozco and Chris Lechner met with Abbie Robinson-Armstrong, VP for Intercultural Affairs, to discuss the Climate Survey.
    - She attributed less staff taking the survey this time to more staff being satisfied and therefore not feeling compelled to take the survey.
    - John and Chris shared their concerns re: the lower # for women regarding their value at work. Abbie felt strongly that the Women’s/Gender Center that is being proposed will address those issues.
  - When asked what the plan was for addressing the results of the survey, Abbie shared that each School/College and Division will be supplied with their specific results and they have been tasked with disseminating these results to their staff in some way. That might be via a retreat, a meeting, etc.

- **Opening of the Year Communication/ Benefits Newsletter**
  - Communication from the Staff Senate Benefits Committee will be going out (preferably no later than next week) highlighting staff senators who have used Tuition Remission and listing their contact information in case other staff members have questions/concerns about the benefit.
• **Changes to MBA Tuition Remission**
  o The University Benefits Committee is working to schedule their next meeting where the changes to Tuition Remission will be discussed. John Orozco, a member of the committee, hopes to have collected sufficient staff feedback regarding the change in the Tuition Remission benefit prior to the meeting. Staff Senators are urged to reach out to the colleagues for feedback.
  o The Faculty Senate discussed the MBA tuition remission changes at their retreat last month and they are very concerned about this issue. The faculty will be doing research on the true cost of tuition remission, what other universities offer, etc.

• **Meeting with President/Provost**
  o Executive Board will be scheduling a meeting with the President and Provost before the end of September. Will be asking the President of he can attend one of our monthly Staff Senate meetings to introduce him to the senate as a whole.

### Committee Updates:

• **Elections Committee:**
  o Working on the Zone Representation Rollout, but no current updates.

• **Recognition/Education/Fellowship Committee:**
  o Meet your Staff Senator @ the Loft event tonight! 5-7pm.
  o Oct 1 – Women’s Volleyball tailgate. Possibly partnering w/ Faculty Senate.
  o Oct. 23 – Women’s Soccer Tailgate
  o Looking into possible wine & cheese events before an LMU dance recital.
  o Possible staff event before the Xmas Tree Lighting.
  o Faculty Senate would like to partner on an arts event in the Spring.

• **Communications Committee:**
  o Newsletter will go out Oct. 12
    ▪ Focus will be President Snyder’s Inauguration, the HR Benefits Fair, and a Letter from John Orozco
    ▪ “Did you know” segment will highlight HR benefits in general
  o Ordering 8’ table linen with Staff Senate Logo for events
  o Ordering polo shirts for senators to wear at events.
  o Staff giveaway for the year will be cooler bags to be distributed at REF events such as tailgates.
    ▪ Suggestion made to give these out at half time to encourage staff to stay for the games and not leave after the tailgate.

• **Benefits Committee:**
  o No Updates

• **Signature Events Committee:**
  o No Updates.

### Other:

• This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Staff Senate, which was founded in 1990.
  o Communications Committee will be updating the new Staff Senate logo to incorporate this.
  o Committees have been tasked with incorporating this information where appropriate at events, communications, etc.