MINUTES

Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
September 10, 2026
2:30 p.m.
Zoom

Present – Gabe Petry (presiding), Judy Alford, Dwayne Edwards, Amber Hagan, Heather Huddleston, Sara Lucy, Sophia Minor, Kayla Robertson, and Aimèe Surprenant.

Absent with Notice – Michelle Raines

Absent – Clay Crumpler, Brandi Evans, Rhonda Hawley, Rachel Miles, James Perkins, and Tyler Wiltshire.

Guests – Jasmine Boyd, Kari Evans, and April Myers.

Gabe Petry called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. **Adoption of Agenda**

   A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

2. **Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of April 9, 2026.**

   Gabe Petry noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Website.

3. **Other Items**

- This being the first meeting of the term, Gabe reviewed the Commission's charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Staff Senate policies and procedures affecting the working conditions of classified and university staff and to promote staff participation in the University community. Areas for consideration include staff morale; evaluation, communication with supervisors, recognition, and career development; staff relations with administrators, faculty, and students; benefits and personal leave; extra-university professional activity; and matters of equity and diversity that affect staff.
- 2026-27 Workplan ideas and suggestions:
    - Goal 1: Address the lack of bereavement leave for staff using benchmarking to form a proposal to support a resolution.
    - Goal 2: To reinstitute Veterans Day as an optional compensatory day for all staff to give Veterans and families of Veterans the option to observe the holiday.
    - Goal 3: Implement voluntary contributions (such as Governance, search committees, and work groups) on Staff Performance Evaluations.
    - Goal 4: Update Staff Senate constituency composition to better represent University Staff populations.
    - Goal 5: Form and task a new work group to create a Staff Handbook.
    - Goal 6: Implement regular policy reviews for key policies affecting staff.
- Gabe asked for a volunteer to be the Staff Representative from CSPA to serve on Employee Benefits Committee 26-27. The members will email him, if interested.

4. **Announcements**

   - The next CSPA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8 at 2:30 p.m.

5. **Adjournment**

   There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m.