

Staff Senate General Meeting – February 25, 2026

3pm – 4pm via Zoom

- **Allison Bolt, Staff Senate President**

- Welcome!
- Weather delays and the campus closing, along with the start of the semester, left us unable to pull everything together to hold the January meeting.
- Introducing our two new Class B (2-year terms) Senators
 - Kristine Lamiell, Asst Dir, Hospitality Marketing, Hospitality Services, introduced herself saying she was thankful for being asked to join and including her. She is excited to be a part of the Senate Council and is looking forward to learning and helping us grow. At CSU about 4 years started in Conference Services and now in Hospitality Services.
 - Jarrett Pratt, Sr Dir, Programs & Student Engagement, Student Belonging and Success, also a new senator who agreed to serve on Senate Council.
 - Happy to have them both on board as 2-year senators, which turns out to being about 1 ½ years with terms ending June 30, 2027.

- **Senator Roster Vacancies**

- Two vacancies: 1 – 3-year (Class A, term ending June 30, 2028) and 1 – 2-year (Class B, term ending June 30, 2027)
 - If you want to nominate a peer or colleagues, please pass their name on to us. The Senate Council should have 21 senator members.

- **Sick Bank for Non-Represented Staff**

- This has been discussed before and recently mentioned by another staff member that HR was having conversations.
- We will reach out to HR and see if we join the conversation. This idea has been discussed in the Staff Association but never gained momentum. Idea is to see if this might be an added benefit to our members of about 350 employees.

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- Explore what barriers, if any, there are to this option. What benefit might be and how this can help staff that unfortunately experience health or other challenges and have run out of sick time.
 - Reconvened regularly scheduled e-board and HR meetings once a semester to stay current on HR updates and policies. Such meetings began with Staff Association and built new relationships and information sharing.
 - Douglas Dykes graciously championed our success in becoming a Staff Senate along with President Bloomberg's support.
 - May invite HR to join Staff Senate General meetings to hear about things impacting our members and other employees.
- **Meeting with President Bloomberg**
 - Talked about re-engaging and connecting with her. President Bloomberg was a huge advocate supporting us to become a Staff Senate and strongly believes the university having a staff senate makes a lot of sense.
 - Asked how we can better engage with leadership and in the university as we work to define our roles so can connect to university initiatives.
 - Discussed committees and Allison will connect with the Faculty Senate President to ask how we can collaborate with them. Historically up to two representatives from council attended their monthly meetings and shared updates.
 - We know it is taking time for us to get where we want to be, but we will get there.
 - The president also shared other ideas, but nothing to report just yet.
 - She is vetting ideas and options out of her office that we could support in helping the university community meet its vision of 2030, where everyone thrives, and where we have healthy campus employees in all classifications.
 - It is all exciting, time-consuming, and takes a little longer for us to get there, but the doors are open. Let us open the floor to see if anyone wants to share ideas or places where you connect or your jobs connect. No comments.
- **Staff Senate Coffee Hours - 2026**

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- Our first coffee hour was in late January, 10 people joined us. Conversations were good and we hear overlaps of where our jobs connect. Everyone enjoyed the interaction and got to know a bit more about our peers, their families, their careers, connection to Cleveland, and what they do our campus.
 - Wanted to plan the next coffee hour in February but could not make it work.
 - March for the next coffee hour. Will coordinate with Dining so Starbucks is prepared if there is a good crowd.
 - Want to move coffee hours to the beginning of the month since monthly meetings are at the end of the month.
 - Preference for the first week of March or spring break? Faculty are often away for spring break, but staff, unless they have scheduled time off are generally here, plus there are less students on campus.
 - Spring break was decided and an invite will go out to all CSU staff.
- **Next Staff Senate General Meeting**
 - Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 3pm. The agenda will be light.
 - Website has all meeting dates posted. Attendees prefer getting outlook invites.
 - Reminder, that we want to fill the last two spots on Council.
 - Might be a short meeting with some updates.
 - So that is a quick 11-minute rundown. I want to just open it up for comments.
 - **New Business**
 - **Are there things about which you have been thinking? Here are some thoughts.**
 - As we build the staff senate are there thoughts on what that might look like or who we should be?
 - Also exploring, to see if we can work LIFT program for assistance.
 - **Any LIFT participants for this next cohort? Megan, Matt, awesome and congrats. John is a past Fellow, congrats. Is there an opportunity to help us identify how to be a successful body on our campus?**

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- A proposal would need to be submitted to LIFT. It may or may not be accepted, but we could try.
 - We did preliminary research when shifting to a Senate. Looked at the University of Cincinnati and Ohio State structures. They are different structures because they include represented staff members in their Staff Senate, which was a part our original goal. However, we decided not to go in that direction, but it may be something to revisit.
 - Awkward being a Staff Senate serving only about 1/4 of the staff population on the campus, with the rest being SEIU and CWA.
- **Any move on a repository for Staff Senate or creating a Teams folder?**
 - Plan on doing but have not been able to work on this project.
 - Thought is to have a shared location for information, updates, and opportunities for staff.
 - Building awareness through various announcements of things happening on campus such as the LIFT program and perhaps other information a new staff member would find helpful.
 - Chris M offered to build something in Teams and setting up different security access to protect Staff Senate planning documents, BOT approval, council rosters, and such.
 - **CSU Compass Update – Chris M and Kelly W.**
 - Started on WorkDay implementations. Project is called CSU Compass.
 - If not currently part of the project, you may start to see some activity soon.
 - Phase 1 underway in calendar year 2026. Deployment for HCM, Finance, and Payroll functions on 7/1/2027.
 - Presentations will begin to University community in mid/late April.
 - UKG timekeeping, MagnusMart, PeopleAdmin all go away and these functions will be a part of the new Workday platform.
 - Comprehensive business process reviews will be incorporated.

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- Phase 2 for academic/student functions to begin next, with deployment planned for fall 2029 semester.
 - IS&T building a Change Network as part of this effort---reach out to Kelly Wallace or Chris Mueller if interested in connecting to something specific.
 - Volunteered Staff Senate to help seek participants for business process reviews and other considerations of this project where it makes sense to connect.
 - Lots of end users who have a stake in this change and would like to contribute to the success of the implementation.
- **Shilpa asked about the highest/biggest dream for Staff Senate, and what is different now that we are a Senate vs. Association.**
 - Advisory body and collaborative group for staff, formalized/codified in University Policy.
 - **Chris Rennison: <https://csuohio.edu/ai/symposium> CSU AI Symposium, Friday, April 24!**
 - Free registration and more information to come.
 - **Meghan Salkin: bringing back TedXClevelandStateUniversity.com; seeking volunteers.**
 - Collected approximately 300 applications for speakers (closing app!)
 - Seeking committee volunteers - connect with Meghan Salkin if interested in choosing 10-12 speakers out of the 300+ applications received.
- **Meeting ended at 4:02 pm.**

Notes prepared by Allison Bolt, President and Elena Grigore, Secretary

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