



STAFF COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2025 | 8:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Harmony at Morgantown, Theater Room | Zoom

Staff Council promotes a positive work environment for all Classified Employees through effectively advocating for our peers in the University's decision-making process.

Name	Title	Department	Present
Barner, Sylvester	Supervisor Campus Services	FO Operations	Yes
Browne, Thea	Administrative Assistant Senior	University Libraries	No*
Bucklew, Jay	Administrative Associate	Research Integrity & Compliance	Yes
Chittum, Martin	Program Assistant III	College of Creative Arts and Media	Yes
Crabtree, Joan	Manager, Physical Plant II	Auxiliary/Operations	Yes
De Leon, Lian	Special Events Coordinator	CCAM Production and Facilities	Yes
Fletcher, Louise	Traffic Enforcement Officer	Parking Management	Yes
George-Jones, Tara	Program Manager	Global Affairs	Yes
Joplin, Michael	Manager Physical Plant II	Auxiliary Operations	No*
Lemine, Matthew (Brett)	Trades Specialist Lead II	FO Maintenance	Yes
Leshner, Ryan	PRT Electronics Specialist I	AUX Personal Rapid Transit	No*
Michael, Louise	Campus Safety Officer	University Police	No*
Moore, Valerie	Academic Lab Manager II	SOM Pathology Anatomy & Lab Med	No
Rakowski, Caty	Program Assistant II	Libraries	Yes
Lautar Rhodes, Brooke	Administrative Associate	SOM Physiology & Pharmacology	Yes
Robinson, Shirley	Administrative Assistant	Academic Affairs Admin.	Yes
Seime, Sarah	Director, HR Partners	T&C, Employee Relations	Yes
Stewart, Dianne	Administrative Associate	Engineering & Mineral Resources	Yes
Toothman, Brandy	Program Specialist	SON	Yes

**Excused*

Also in Attendance:

Angela Henderson, Program Coordinator NC, CEMR Computer Science and Electrical
Sean Manning, University Communications Specialist Senior, UR

Submitted By: Janelle Squires, Administrative Secretary, Staff Council Office

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Shirley Robinson, at 8:33 a.m., and a quorum was established by roll call.

First Business

Shirley welcomed new member, Lian De Leon, Special Events Coordinator, CCAM Production and Facilities. She replaced Angela Henderson's seat in the Professional/Non-Teaching Sector.

Approval of October minutes motioned by Joan. Jay seconded. All in favor and motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

By Joan Crabtree, Secretary/Treasurer

Joan reported a beginning balance of \$661.95 with one expense of \$21.20 for the telephone.

That leaves an ending balance of \$640.75.

Chair's Report

By Shirley Robinson

Shirley reported that she attended the Faculty Senate meeting.

Board of Governors (BOG) Report

By Dianne Stewart, Classified Staff Representative

Dianne reported some items from their meeting:

- Re-evaluating Mylan Puskar Stadium to reconfigure seating sections to increase ticket sales for the 2028 season
- Hope Coliseum complex – reconfiguring the track and baseball fields; adding additional facilities
- Potomac State College – approved state funding for renovating their lab
- Talent and Culture asked for approval for drug testing for the DOT and FTA employees
- Additional funding for Jackson's Mill
- Replacing the Reedsville horse barn that was involved in a fire
- Approved the purchase of rifles from the Morgantown Police Dept. for the WVU Police Dept.
- Discontinuing a few programs and approved a few new programs in Davis College
- President Benson reported our retention is up; we were at 83.4%, now at 85.1%
- President Benson had visited 34 of 55 counties in the state at that point and 15 of 25 WVU Medicine Hospitals

- Fabrizio D'Aloisio, Vice President, Enrollment Management, is looking at starting the high schools student visits to the campus
- Our Mission Statement is still being re-vamped
- They have met with all WVU departments; will begin phase two of action items

Committee Reports

Legislative

By Jay Bucklew, Chair

Jay reported they met with Dan Kimble on November 13.

PEIA is still the focus and keeping the plan funded.

Tara noted that there has not been an increase in the longevity pay in many years. Sarah will mention this to someone in Compensation.

Compensation

Tara reported she and Thea met yesterday. They just discussed when the best time would be for all members to meet each month.

Scholarship/Tuition Assistance

By Brandy Toothman, Chair

Brandy reported that they met on November 5 and reviewed the spreadsheet for the spring 2026 semester. There is a total of twenty-three applicants; some were ineligible according to the program guidelines.

Welfare

By Brandy Toothman, Chair

Brandy reported they did not have items to discuss and did not meet.

STAAF (Service Training Appreciation Advocacy Fellowship) ad-hoc Committee

By Shirley Robinson

Shirley reported that the coat/clothing drive is underway. It runs until December 12. Applications are on the Staff Council website. Any remaining coats will be distributed to those experiencing homelessness.

They are also looking at a cookbook that will feature recipes from employees at all WVU campuses.

Tara added that The Rack has an Amazon wish list.

Student Retention

By Shirley Robinson

Shirley reported that she has not met with the new SGA representatives but will reach out to them.

Sustainability

By Martin Chittum, Classified Staff Council Rep.

Martin did not have anything to report.

Staff Council Newsletter

By Martin Chittum, Editor

Martin did not have any recent updates.

New Business

Tara, who serves on the Provost Search Committee, provided an update:

- Five candidates will be on campus the first week of December
- One will be on campus each day of the week
- There will be open times for a meet and greet
- The President will meet with them, and the search committee will also meet with them
- President Benson will make the final decision

Tara noted the candidates are exceptional, and it was a difficult task narrowing the applicants down to five.

Shirley called for nominations for the ACCE representative to replace Angela who accepted a non-classified staff position.

Tara self-nominated and is the only eligible member who has served at least two years on Staff Council as required. The group unanimously voted yes.

Brooke offered to be a backup for Tara if she cannot attend.

Adjournment

Shirley requested an early adjournment to prepare for the Paul R. Martinelli Classified Staff State Recognition Award presentation for Paul Martinelli.

Motion to adjourn made by Louise F. Tara seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.