



## Special Meeting – COVID-19 Vaccine

August 30, 2021 | 11:00 a.m. | Zoom

Name	Title	Department	Present
Blake, Tammy	Academic Program Associate	Animal & Nutritional Sciences	Yes
Browne, Thea	Administrative Assistant Senior	University Libraries	Yes
Bucklew, Jay	Administrative Associate	Research Integrity & Compliance	Yes
Cantrell-Byrd, Nancy	Program Assistant II	CLASS	Yes
Crabtree, Joan	Supervisor Campus Services	Auxiliary/Operations	No*
Dawson, James	Supervisor PRT System Operations	Auxiliary/PRT	No*
Funk, Danielle	Program Manager	HSC End-of-Life Care	Yes
Henderson, Angela	Program Assistant II	A&S World Languages	Yes
Manley Darlene	Manager Business Operations	Student Life	Yes
Martin, Lisa	Special Events Coordinator Senior	Event Management	Yes
McMillen, James	Campus Service Worker	Auxiliary/Operations	Yes
Nichols, Melanie	Supervisor Campus Services	Auxiliary/Operations	No*
Patrick, Jr., Kevin	Project Coordinator	University Registrar	Yes
Robinson, Shirley	Administrative Assistant	Academic Affairs Admin.	Yes
Runyon, Peggy	Campus Police Officer Lead	University Police Department	No*
Seime, Sarah	Director, HR Partners	T&C, Employee Relations	Yes
Stewart, Dianne	Program Assistant	Engineering & Mineral Resources	Yes
Thomas, Jude	PRT Electronics Specialist I	Auxiliary/PRT	Yes
Torries, Michael	Academic Lab Manager II	Chemistry	Yes
Weimer, Brian	Trades Specialist I	Auxiliary/Operations	Yes

**\*Excused**

### Also in Attendance:

Cris DeBord, VP for Talent & Culture

Mison Beondy-Dean, Program Specialist, A&S World Languages

Jessica Eichlin, Library Associate, University Libraries

E. Gordon Gee, President, West Virginia University

Cate Johnson, Assistant Director, Honors College

John Mullins, Developmental Advising Specialist, B&E Graduate Programs

Eric Myers, Interim Program Coordinator, Honors College

Melanie Page, Associate VP, RES Creative & Scholarly Activity

Pamela Pritt, University Communications Specialist Senior, University Relations

April Stolzenbach, Executive Director, University Relations

Lisa Verlinden, Office Administrator, Honors College

### **Call to Order**

The special meeting was called to order by the chair, Michael Torries, at 11:02 a.m. and a quorum was established.

### **Open Discussion – COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate**

Michael called the special meeting due to a faculty member writing a resolution to suggest to administration the mandate of the COVID-19 vaccination for all employees and students. He believes it is important for staff to voice their opinions along with faculty. The vaccine is now FDA approved. Around 70% of employees and students are fully vaccinated.

The issue of a mandated vaccine is a national conversation. Our governor has taken the position that this decision needs to be at a local level regarding public schools. While WVU has not mandated, several other universities have.

President Gee thanked Staff Council for reflecting the many different views of the staff. As he has said, he is in favor of vaccinations, but is not in favor of mandating a vaccine because he believes a mandate does not work. He wants everyone to be safe. He certainly does not want to be in the position to infringe upon one's freedom of choice.

Staff Council members discussed their various opinions regarding a vaccine mandate.

A non-classified staff member expressed their concerns of a vaccine mandate and the lack of a representative body to address the concerns of Non-classified Staff to the administration.

Danielle has created a two-question climate survey through Qualtrics to be sent out to staff which she shared with members to review. It asks if you are in favor of all students getting the vaccine which you can answer yes, no or maybe; and if you are in favor of all employees getting the vaccine which you can answer yes, no or maybe.

After discussion, the maybe option will be removed. Also, a question to identify whether the respondent is a classified staff, non-classified staff, faculty or student was added. Danielle will also make the poll only accessible using your WVU credentials.

Kevin motioned we adopt the survey as amended. Jay seconded. All in favor and motion was carried.

The survey will go out this week and will remain open for approximately a week.

### **Adjournment**

Lisa motioned to adjourn. Angela seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

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