

## Staff Congress Meeting

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 – 1:30pm

Location: Zoom

In Attendance: Russ Strunk (President,) Fernando Gonzalez (President-Elect,) Alycia Tidrick (Secretary,) Sherri Gowins, Tabitha Key, Jessica Chisley, Pam Baughman, Ben Nelson

Absent: Cheryl Burton, Clay Contini, Marsha Crowe, Jack Layden

- I. Art & Science Strategic Planning Meeting on Monday – Combined Faculty/Staff Forum
  - a. Feedback was generally positive; good way to involve all campus constituents (who wish to be involved) in the strategic planning process
- II. Idea: Should we relax our dress code in order to be more inviting to prospective students?
  - a. Perhaps we could have Fridays where staff are able to wear Centre gear. Could be a good photo op, while still being appealing to visitors seeking both a formal and an informal feel.
- III. Follow-up from Previous Meeting
  - a. Russ met with Kay Drake and Brian Hutzley regarding concerns that were brought up about staff wages in the previous Staff Congress meeting. Overall, Russ found the meeting to be very informative, and learned that many of the concerns shared in the previous meeting were already on the radar and under discussion.
- IV. Presidential Terms
  - a. Should the outgoing President remain involved in Staff Congress in a “President Emeritus” role? This would turn the president role into, essentially, a 3 year commitment (President Elect → President → President Emeritus.) The goal is to help ease the Presidential transition and provide continuity of knowledge/experience.
  - b. General consensus was that it was a good idea.
  - c. Russ feels like its already a multi-year commitment, due to onboarding experiences as President elect and transition support the year after serving as President, so this really isn’t a dramatic change in practice.
  - d. This would require modification of the Staff Congress Constitution.
- V. Constitutional Amendments
  - a. There is no mention in the bylaws of a process for making amendments
  - b. Alycia will share the existing constitution with members of Staff Congress.
  - c. We will first agree upon wording to outline a process for Amendments that will be added to the Constitution, then following that process to propose an amendment to the term of President (add the “President Emeritus” duties, as described above.)

Adjourned, 2:15pm

Respectfully Submitted by Alycia Tidrick, Secretary