

# **Fayetteville State University Staff Senate Annual Report Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

## **Introduction**

The Staff Senate’s vision is to support, publicize, advocate for, and represent the interests and needs of SHRA and EHRA (non-teaching) staff at Fayetteville State University. Members of the Senate employ individual and group efforts to encourage and build unity, camaraderie, and professionalism among staff while supporting the mission of the University.

The Senate held its first official meeting for fiscal year 2019-20 on August 20, 2019. The Senate discussed and developed what would be the major foci for the year listed below:

### **Focus 1. Establish “Staff Senate Professional Development Guidelines and an Application”**

#### **Status: Accomplished**

The Staff Senate Professional Development Grant is designed to help staff to perform efficiently in the day to day operations of the university and meet the needs of our faculty and staff.

### **Focus 2. Establish a “Bronco Beat: What’s New at FSU” Newsletter**

#### **Status: Accomplished**

Updates of the newsletter will be provided in small snippets on a monthly basis to provide resources for staff to stay engaged and provide information on professional development opportunities.

### **Focus 3. Establish a “New Look for the Staff Senate Website”**

#### **Status: Accomplished**

The Staff Senate website revitalization project will reflect past and present staff senate activities to profile and highlight the staff and increase staff engagement.

## **Staff Senate Activities**

### **July 2019 – June 2020**

- August 2019 – Interim Chancellor Peggy Valentine greeted the Senate with warm sentiments and stated she would like for the Senate to come to her home to discuss concerns of the staff and what can be done to help staff feel more valued.
- November 2019 – “Community Homeless and Hunger Stand Down” Event  
Goal: The Stand Down was organized by the City of Fayetteville and the VFW Post 6018 to feed and provide needed items for the homeless of the City of Fayetteville.  
FSU Senate Volunteers worked with Department Health and Human Services to provide clothing, health care products, meals and other helpful aid to the needy.
- November 2019 - Meet and Greet held at the Chancellor’s residence with the Faculty and Staff Senate members.
- March 2020 - “Backpack Buddy” Food Drive Event for Westarea Elementary School  
Goal: To provide backpack lunches for school children during the Pandemic (COVID 19).  
The FSU Staff Senate was successful in providing lunches for needy children during this annual event.
- April - May 2020 - Annual Staff Senate Elections  
The Senate’s Annual Election (2020-22) was held with the following results:
  - (9) Nine new Senators
  - (18) Eighteen new Alternates
  - (15) Fifteen new Proxies
- May 2020 – Our first virtual staff senate meeting with senators, alternates and proxies was held on May 21, 2020.

- June 2020 - Bronco Spirit Week: Held in Partnership with the Faculty

A weeklong of virtual activities: Bronco Mile Monday, Bronco Tasty Tuesday, Bronco Workout Wednesday, Bronco Thoughtful Thursday, and Bronco Family Friday to connect and show off our Bronco pride.

### **Additional Accomplishments**

- Appointment of FSU Delegates' UNC Staff Assembly Meetings

The delegates and alternates for the 2019-2022 year were: Ms. Patricia Flanigan - June 2021, Mrs. Tina Raines - June 2022, and Mr. Dennis McNair - June 2022.

Mr. Velappan Velappan was elected by the UNC Staff Assembly to serve as Parliamentary of the System-wide Assembly - October 2019-21. Mrs. Shenetta Dudley was later appointed by the President of the Staff Senate as an alternate representing Fayetteville State University.

- The Staff Senate was instrumental in securing a partial refund of parking permit fees for the FY19-20 fiscal year due to campus closure due to COVID19.

### **Conclusion**

FSU Interim Chancellor, Dr. Peggy Valentine, provided strong encouragement and financial support for the staff senate. Without this support, the Senate would not have had a successful conclusion for its many activities. Her support and quiet encouragements greatly contributed to the Senate, and the Senate is appreciative of her support. The world as we knew it changed and so did our campus. We were in the midst of a pandemic and a quest for social equality. Our campus may have temporarily closed physically but virtually, the Staff Senate continued its mission to advocate and represent the FSU staff. As we adjust to our new Reality and Normal, we wish our Bronco family much success!

*Prepared and Submitted By: Patricia G. Flanigan, Staff Senate President, September 24, 2020*