

**Staff Engagement Committee (SEC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 28, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Administrative Report- John Crawford, VP for Finance and Business Services and CFO
  - a. Legislative Session is ongoing in Austin. Have presented to Senate Finance and House Appropriations both went very well. The state is in the best financial situation than it has been in many years.
  - b. Greg Bonnan is an Aggie and Medical doctor. Many conversations with him about what Texas A&M is requesting.
  - c. Most money Texas A&M receives is through a formula to determine how much will be given. Biggest request to get Texas A&M caught up with the number of students for growth funding.
  - d. Funding for Hazlewood Students. A veteran to receive free tuition and fees for them or a dependent. Asking the state to help Texas A&M fund the program. Total \$30million, \$7million for veterans, \$23million for the legacy program (dependents). Texas A&M is affected the most of other state schools. Texas State has a higher percentage, but Texas A&M has more money. Veteran must use all of their GI Bill before any of the Hazlewood can be used.
  - e. Mental Health for students. House Appropriations Chair who is a doctor and understands what is going on with mental health helps he has an understanding.
  - f. Visualization Program, unique to Texas A&M. Asking for an exceptional item to fund a large studio for the new School of Performance, Visualization and Fine Arts. They need business professionals that know how to work in the visualization industry.
  - g. CSIGG group organizing for process improvement projects for the division.
  - h. Group that will be working on the delegation process for the purchasing \$10k
  - i. John Crawford, Joe Pettibon, Deborah Wright, and Mark Herzog currently having quarterly financial reviews with all divisions and colleges across the campus. Those meetings have been going well and opening good conversations.
  - j. Came out of COVID in a very good place since people weren't traveling or spending money.
  - k. Wants the division to be the best place to work on campus. A lot of little things that need to happen to set the course towards that. John sees those ideas starting with the SEC. Would like to know from the SEC members what we need to do today to make a better tomorrow. Make sure to keep the division informed. Want to better educate division on the things that are available for the staff.
- Finance Department and College/School Updates
  - a. Deborah Wright, Associate Vice President- Budget and Planning

- i. Waiting for the end of the end of Legislature to end before starting the budget process. Budget will go to Board of Regents in August for approval. March is when Texas A&M gets a better idea of what the university will receive.
  - ii. Quarterly financial reviews going well and learning
  - iii. Tuition and Fees (Texas A&M, North Texas, Texas Tech, University of Texas, Texas State) if fully fund the student growth the six chancellors will not raise tuition for two years. Total funding for six universities is \$6 billion.
  - iv. February at the Board of Regents, financial health is strong.
  - v. Took the budget and separated it out and centralized all monies by September 1<sup>st</sup>, still making some changes as needed.
  - vi. The MGT Reviews there are budget requests that are still being worked on.
  - vii. Question- Cost of living increases? The state has money set for state agencies but not for higher education. Hoping to mirror what the state agencies will do by the chancellors not raising tuition and using that extra funding to be able to give the increases.
  - viii. HROE is currently doing an analysis on where we are deficient and where salary changes need to be made.
- b. Delisa Falks, Assistant Vice President- Aggie One Stop (Erin Porter for Delisa)
- i. Aggie One Stop (Integrated enrollment services unit) one stop shop.
  - ii. Opened in Spring 2022. Fully cross-trained team of Enrollment Services Advisors and Peer Advisors. Provide holistic customer service and advising for multiple offices to reduce the “run around”. Located in the General Services Complex.
  - iii. Offices supported by one stop is Admissions, Registrar, Scholarships & Financial Aid/ Military Education Benefits, and Student Business Services. They get involved once the student applies for acceptance.
  - iv. Service Model to focus on student experience & success.
    - 1. Student expectations
    - 2. Single contact for enrollment needs
    - 3. Fully Integrate=Remove Silos
    - 4. Reduce bounce/ “run-around”
    - 5. Total, holistic care
    - 6. Service based office do not handle the processes.
  - v. Encourage callers to put themselves in line and get a call back verses staying on hold.
  - vi. Aggie One Stop main line 979-847-1STP (1787). Website is [aggie.tamu.edu](http://aggie.tamu.edu).
  - vii. The first week of class and when bills are due best way to contact is texting, mornings and get in line for a call back.
  - viii. Service undergrad, graduate and professional, non-traditional students.

- Benefits Report- Stacey Havel, Business Services Administrator, HROE
  - a. Retirement event on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-4:30. All ORP and TDA (tax deferred accounts) vendors will be there for questions. At the Equine Center. TRS will not be there for the presentation but hoping to have in the future.
  - b. New Assistant Director is Martha Alexander from TEEX HR.
  - c. System Benefits Administrator is Sherry Meyer
  - d. Qualifying life changes only have 31 days to make the changes instead of 60 days.
  - e. SEBAC current rep is Mary Schubert. Elections are in April or May.
  - f. Waiting on premium updates for Benefits for this next year. Looks like graduate benefits will stay the same.
  - g. Make sure to do wellness exams to get your wellness credit. Deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>. Have to do 2 step on your My Evive.
  
- University Staff Council Report, Tamra Young, Executive Officer Committee Secretary
  
- Old Business
  - a. Election of Chair and Chair Elect
  
- New Business
  
- Closing Discussion

Important Dates:

Friday, March 17, 2023 University Holiday

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. Staff Engagement Committee Meeting