

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 2 pm

Teams Attendees:

Executive Board: Daniel Berndt, Mayra Hernandez, Enrique Botello, Clarissa Guerrero, Martha L. Medina, Yesika Barajas, Aleen Gutierrez, and Sarah Madrigales.

I. Welcome

Meeting called to order at 14:00 by Staff Senate President Daniel Berndt.

II. April 2024 Meeting Minutes Approval

Motions to approve:

1. 1st motion: Lorissa Cortez
2. 2nd motion: Yesika Barajas

III. Treasurer's Report

Previous balance: \$10, 423

Expenses: -\$307 for awards/book scholarships
-\$40 trophies for bowl-a-thon
-\$157 tablecloth for Staff Senate events
-\$25 gift card for door prize in previous meeting
-\$487.76 supplies for candygrams

Donations: \$25.00

Remaining balance: \$9,431

IV. Speaker

- TAMIU HR – Blue Cross Blue Shield: Two-Step Wellness Program - Alice Arce reminds us that **June 30** is the deadline for our two-step wellness program. Applies to employees and spouses. Go to WebMD one through TAMIU SSO - spouses need to log in through the website at webmdhealth.com/tamus – to check if your wellness visits are completed. Be sure doctor codes correctly as wellness visit to receive proper credit. Vaccinations including flu shots qualify. Call Alice Arce or Ashley Carey for questions.

Q: Does a women's exam count as a wellness exam?

A: Yes, it does, but your doctor has to code it as a wellness exam. Dental exams and vision screenings also count as wellness exams.

V. Staff Senate News

- Bylaws Update – Currently working through bylaws but will have an update at the next meeting with regards to the constitution.

- Board Elections – We are starting this a little earlier than usual since Daniel will be leaving TAMIU at the end of the Summer.
 - Schedule – We are hoping to have a new Board in place before Daniel’s departure.
 - Nomination period – Will be opened today. All positions open except current President and Past President. Visit Staff Senate web page for more information on positions and duties. QR code will send you to nomination form. The nomination period will end May 24th. Voting for nominations will begin June 11th at next staff senate meeting and end on June 18th. New board will be sworn in on July 9th.
 - Past President continuity - Kike will be staying on as Past President for an additional term with Myra as President.
- NeighborWorks Laredo – Will be bringing Financial and Credit Coaching Workshop to campus. The course is an hour long and will likely take place the 1st week in June. Stay tuned for more updates.
- Employee Recognition Program – recap – Congratulations to Rebecca Romero and Nadia de la Garza for winning Spring ‘24’s Staff Recognition Program. We are hoping to do this for every semester. Watch the livestream on staff senate’s Facebook page.
- University Funding Presentation – recap – Was a great opportunity to learn about the financial aspect of TAMIU. We are hoping to have this presentation regularly, as there was a lot of interest.
- Staff Field Day – May 16, 4:00-7:00pm at WTC first floor. There will be a lot of games for everyone to play, including Loteria. There will be refreshments and an open bar. All staff are welcome. Please RSVP. Bring Western wear.
- Annual Bowl-A-Thon – June 6, 2024, 6:00pm at Plamor. Theme will be Night at the Circus. Registration required. \$50/team, up to 5 people/team, includes 3 rounds of bowling. Will be accommodating up to 20 teams.
- ***Special Announcement*** - The Staff Senate will be funding summer camp tuition for 30 individuals. A big thanks to President Dr. Arenaz who contributed a large amount of funding to assist with this program. Click on the link to sign up. Child must meet the eligibility requirements for TAMIU camp. If more than 30 people sign up, we will have a raffle on Thursday during Staff Field Day.
- Staff Senate Inbox Suggestions/Comments – 1st suggestion: Staff Senate should help by offering employees discounts for Summer camps.
2nd suggestion: Wage increases, merit pay, benefits for employees. Daniel suggests contacting your supervisor.
Let us know if you have any suggestions or comments. We will make every effort to hear you out and respond. Check out our website.

VI. TAMIU News

- SBDC: Quickbooks course – Sandy from SBDC lets us know that there will be a course on the online version of Quickbooks on June 18th. The course will take place on campus from 9:00am to 1:00pm on June 18th. Anyone interested can register for \$125. Will be open to 20 individuals.

- Michelle Flores from Office of Student Counseling & Disability Services informs us there will be workshops on suicide prevention for staff on 2 different dates: Tuesday, May 21st from 9:00am to 11:00am; and Tuesday, June 11th 9:00am to 11:00am. The workshops will cover recognizing signs of someone who may harm themselves, how to approach them, and to be aware of available resources on and off campus. Please register and fill out Google form, as there is limited seating of 25. If you have any questions, reach out to Michelle Flores, ext. 3087.
- HealthyU updates – 2-week free pass is available at Rec center. During trial, you'll have the same access to Rec center as anyone with a Rec sports membership. Space is limited. Aqua Aerobics will start June 1 from 5:45pm to 6:45pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. There will be two 4-week sessions. Health U will cover costs.
- Final EHS Workshop – Free fire safety workshop on Thursday, May 16th at 2:00pm in AIC-127. Register at go.tamtu.edu/EHS. Previous workshop videos are available on EHS website.

VII. Open Floor

- Pablo Reyes from OIT says they will be replacing computers after Memorial Day. Computers are replaced every 4 years, usually in the Fall semester.

VIII. Door Prizes

1. Winner of swag bag: Alice Arce
2. Winner of swag bag: Lesly Garay
3. Winner of \$25 Starbucks gift card: Franz

IX. Adjournment

- 1st motion: Aleen Gutierrez
- 2nd motion: Clarissa Guerrero