1. Roll Call
   **Present:** Jamie (Pax) Abrams, Maggie Bradford, Frankie Branham, Matt Brown, Michele Brown, Debbie Buckner, Naomi Emmett, Shahrukh Farooq, Janice Gebhard, Anthony Galvan, Debbie Greszler, Dennis Guten, Andrew Helgeson, Amanda Hodges, Brooke Hudspeth, Mara Jackson, Jennifer Klunk, Anna LeBlanc, Charlotte Mason, Angela Marin, Evan Paret, Laura Payne, Lynne Perler, Sadhona Pulukuri, Beverly Reed, Pinky Reyes, Deja Rollins, Helen Roth, Jackie Schmitz, Cynthia Seton-Rogers, William Shaffer, Gaurav Shekhar, Melani Sherbet, Elise Smith, Sylvia Smiley, Renee Stone, Hieu (Heather) Ton, Vy Trang, Shelly Turner, Adrienne Wilson, Melissa Wyder

   **Absent:** Stevesha Evans, Liz Martin, Alice Presti

   **Guests:** Sandee Goertzen, Dr. Ravi Prakash, Dr. Richard Scotch, Eric Chen, Carla Ramazan, Terry Pankratz

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by President, Naomi Emmett at 9:05am

2. **Guest Speakers:** Terry Pankratz
   i. **Spoke on:**
      1. Updated the Council on the financial condition of the University, with a portion of Questions/Answers at the end.
      2. Terry is willing to meet with any area in-person to provide information/answer questions.

3. **Review of July 2018 Minutes**
   i. Motion to accept, with highlighted corrections: Melissa Wyder
      1. Motion 2nd by: Brooke Hudspeth
         a. Minutes accepted

4. **Voting for new Staff Council President and Vice President (2018-2019)**
   a. Vote for President
      i. Melissa Wyder nominates: Naomi Emmett
      ii. Nomination 2nd by: Maggie Bradford
      iii. Nomination accepted by Naomi Emmett
         1. Vote: Unanimous acceptance
   b. Vote for Vice President
i. Sylvia Smiley nominates: Melissa Wyder
ii. Nomination 2nd by: Charlotte Mason
iii. Nomination accepted by Melissa Wyder
   1. Vote: Unanimous acceptance

5. Committee Reports
   a. Executive Board (Naomi Emmett)
      i. Naomi is meeting with Kim Goodfriend on Friday
         1. Getting dates for the CARE Awards and the Coffee with the President.
      ii. University Committees
         1. Letters going out
      iii. Dr. Benson’s Strategic Plan for the University
         1. Questions/Concerns? Please email them to Naomi
         2. Posted on the Presidents website
         3. https://www.utdallas.edu/strategicplan/

   b. Attendance Report (Melissa Wyder)
      i. Staff Council attendance is great

   c. Student Government (Eric Chen)
      i. Looking to meet with the groups on campus. Retained a record number this year.
         1. Meetings are on Tues at 5:15
      ii. Art Concerns
         1. Received the information about a concerning piece of art. Looking into it right now and will speak on it later.
      iii. Voting
         1. Working on getting students registered to vote.
      iv. Academic Affairs
         1. Take One/Leave one library
            a. Looking for donations
      v. Newsletter
         1. Has been published and is in SU 2.4
      vi. International Affairs Committee
         1. Looking to get warmer water fountains.
         2. Extending DART on Sundays for students
      vii. Residential Affairs
         1. Taking unused food to food banks
      viii. Student Affairs
         1. UTD App is available
      ix. Green Initiative
         1. Composting is available in the Residence Halls for students
     x. Veterans Center
1. There is a student representative on the Council

xi. University Committees
   1. Student representatives have been finalized and letters have been sent.

d. Benefits Committee
   i. Committee not yet established for the new year. No report given.

e. Communications Committee
   i. Committee not yet established for the new year. No report given.

f. Fundraising Committee
   i. Committee not yet established for the new year. No report given.

g. Staff Development Committee
   i. Committee not yet established for the new year. No report given.

h. Secretary and Treasurer’s Report (Jamie (Pax) Abrams)
   i. Staff Council Operating Account

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance:</td>
<td>N/A (New CC Sept. 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue - Fiscal Year 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses – Fiscal Year 2018</td>
<td>$ (20,544.85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P12 – Impressions Marketing; Sandee Goertzen Award $(104.65)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P12 - Sandee Goertzen Award S+H $(36.76)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P12 – ROEA Name plate $(41.50)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers in – Fiscal Year 2019</td>
<td>$ 31,310.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encumbrances – SC AA Payroll</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Available Balance Aug 31 2018</strong></td>
<td>$ 10,948.55</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ii. Staff Council Fundraising Account

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance:</td>
<td>$ 6,078.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue – Fiscal Year 2018</td>
<td>$ 2,623.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses – Fiscal Year 2018</td>
<td>$ (295.53)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers in</td>
<td>$ 1,956.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Available Balance Aug 31 2018</strong></td>
<td>$ 10,362.36</td>
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</table>

iii. Staff Council Endowed Scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance:</td>
<td>$ 415.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue – Fiscal Year 2018</td>
<td>$ 2,381.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P12 – Quarterly Distribution $600.51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses – Fiscal Year 2018</td>
<td>$ (2,000.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iv. Jody Nelsen Scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Encumbrances</th>
<th>Current Available Balance Aug 31 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Market Value: $ TBD</td>
<td>$ 796.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Beginning Balance: $ (185.36)
- Revenue – Fiscal Year 2018: $ 1,907.80
- P12 – Quarterly Distribution: $476.95
- Expenses – Fiscal Year 2018: $ (1,250.00)

v. Staff Scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Encumbrances</th>
<th>Current Available Balance Aug 31 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Market Value: $ TBD</td>
<td>$ 472.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Beginning Balance: $ 6,037.97
- Revenue – Fiscal Year 2018: $ 525.00
- P12 – Payroll donation: $50.00
- Expenses – Fiscal Year 2018: $ (2,500.00)
- Transfers in: $ (2,856.00)

i. Faculty Senate (Dr. Ravi Prakash)
   i. Naomi presented at the last meeting for the first time, representing Staff Council.
   ii. Dean Searches
      1. BBS: Had 4 candidates visit and each had a forum, currently gathering feedback.
      2. Graduate Studies: Candidates to visit the end of Sept/Oct
      3. ECS: In Process, appointment letters have gone out for the Committee.
      4. EPPS: Not yet started

j. Retiree Association (Sandee Goertzen)
   i. The first meeting will be this Friday.

University Committees
a. Parking and Transportation (Dee Lambert and Melissa Wyder)
   i. No report made
b. Campus Facilities (Janice Gebhard)
i. No report made
b. University Safety and Security (Chad Thomas)
   i. No report made
c. eForms (Michele Brown, Debbie Buckner, DeAnn Hegi, Kelly Hanford)
   i. No report made
d. Planning, and Policy (Dennis Guten)
   i. No report made
e. Auxiliary Services Advisory (Matt Brown)
   i. No report made
f. HOP Committee (Naomi Emmett)
   i. Report made earlier
g. Student Fee Advisory Committee (David Richardson and Debbie Greszler)
   i. No report made
h. Committee for Support of Diversity and Equity (Carrilaine Schneckner, Daniel Hernandez, Alice Presti, Daniel Cordova, Lynn Butler)
   i. Report from Alice Presti, provided by Melissa Wyder
      a. Faculty Parental Leave Policy approved and was sent to the President.
      b. Went through HOP and now needs Dr. Benson’s signature
      c. Next meeting: Oct 05, 2018
   i. Intellectual Property Advisory Committee (Jay Silber)
      i. No report made
j. Academic Calendar Committee (Megan Gray and Sheila Rollerson)
   i. No report made
k. Information Security Advisory Committee (Daniel Calhoun)
   i. No report made
l. University Sustainability Committee (Craig Lewis)
   i. No report made
m. Wellness Committee (Pinky Reyes, Elena Galli)
   i. No report made.

6. Continuing Business
   a. Proposals
      i. 2014-004p: Executive Board is looking into an ombudsman for employees
         1. In process.
      ii. 2018-016p: Meetings of various Depts. to discuss issues/improve
          communication, through the year (Communications)
         1. People seem interested per the Benefits Fair

7. Old Business

8. New Business
   Suggestions
a. **2019-001s**: Hi there. I would like to suggest having a small chapel on campus where students like myself can go to pray or meditate. I understand that we are not a Christian or religiously affiliated university, but other public universities such as TWU and UNT have chapels and other religious spaces. TWU having The Little Chapel in the Woods, and UNT with the Goolsby Chapel, Christian Campus Center and the Catholic Campus Center. Such a space to pray or meditate in before exams or in general would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

   i. Per Melissa Wyder: There is a prayer room in the Student Union, called the Reflection room (SU 1.801)
   
   ii. Per Deja Rollins: There is high traffic on Fridays
       1. Per Andy Helgeson: Available on a ‘first come, first serve’ basis.
          A curtain is available to divide the room, if needed.
          a. Per Melissa Wyder: Motions to forward this to the Student Government.
          b. Motion 2nd by: Maggie Bradford
             i. Given to Student Government

b. **2019-002s**: There is a piece of “art” hanging on the west wall of the atrium in JSOM II that I have concern over. It is a textile wall hanging which is a series of headless/decapitated bloody female bodies. I find it tasteless; however, more importantly, I think the subject in inappropriate in a University setting which boasts of its support of women.

   i. Per Pinky Reyes: …UTD received a huge endowment of art. The one referred to in the suggestion is from a famous artist. Would prefer student art be up on display and a vetting policy to decide what art goes up.

   1. **What context is given for the art?**
      a. None, it needs to be researched
      2. Per Naomi Emmett: We cannot remove it, but can we add a description?
      3. Per Helen Roth: Staff Council should focus on other things, not censorship. It would take up a lot of time.
      4. Per Gaurav Shekhar: Art is up to interpretation, but this is not uplifting the University. However, the concern should definitely be sent back.
      5. Per Shelly Turner: The SPN Gallery has an interpretive art display. Maybe we can move it there?
      6. Per Jennifer Klunk: Who has oversight/is in charge of putting these up (endowed art pieces)? I wonder if they should be involved in discussion of the placement.
         a. Per Laura Payne: I don’t think we should censor art, but it is a question of consenting. It should come more from the student side, what they are consenting to subjecting themselves to while they walk down the hall. Also question where it would be more appropriate placement.
   Per Melissa Wyder: This collection is huge. Who is deciding what/where gets put up? As well as making these
decisions on other collections that are donated. Would like to see a committee/group take this on. Let’s find out who is making the decisions, and find more appropriate things to display.

b. Per Naomi Emmett: Would like to adopt this to get these questions answered, and not suggest censorship.
   i. Per Dr. Ravi Prakash: Art can be very disturbing. Students come to the University to be exposed to things they normally would not. My concern is that if we only expose the students to the things aligned with our sensibility, what are we doing to ourselves?

c. Per Pinky Reyes: My concern is, if we receive an endowment of art; should we be forced to display it as a University because it was given to us? Or should we, have a choice about what to put up, and where it is appropriate to display it.
   i. Per Melissa Wyder: Motion to extend the meeting
      1. Motion 2nd by: Matt Brown
      2. Motion voted on and passed.
   a. Meeting extended.

d. Per Pinky Reyes: Felt like there was no choice about the art. If there was a Committee or a choice of display?
   i. Per Anna LeBlanc: Would be happy to go back and look up the policy on this.
   ii. Per Melissa Wyder: Motions to adopt and have Anna investigate further for us.
      1. Motion 2nd By: Jennifer Klunk
   a. Accepted and given to Anna LeBlanc for further investigation

c. **2019-003s:** I would like to see the ability to buy from Amazon come back. We are spending a lot of time and money on products that are much more expensive and are of lower quality using the “preferred vendors”. For example, we run an Outreach program and have over 100+ tablets that are used by kids. We needed to replace chargers for these tablets and we found on Amazon a place to buy 100 braided charging cables for $100. We were forced to use a vendor that sold a product that was of lower quality for $4.95 each. This is just one example of how we are throwing money out the window. It does not seem right to me that we are not being good stewards of university funds by wasting it in such a way. I have asked procurement about this and all I get is that’s the way it is. Well it’s not right.
   i. Per Sylvia Smiley: Motions not to accept, just take the information back and let people know about the contracts in place.
ii. Per Lynne Perler: You CAN buy from Amazon, but you need to go through the catalogs and justify why it cannot be bought elsewhere. It takes more time.

iii. Per Jennifer Klunk: Would like the slides from the presentation distributed.

iv. Per Pinky Reyes: I see the logic, but others don’t. People need to be informed. Maybe we can add this to our Flares?

v. Per Debbie Greszler: The response is valid, but it should come from Terry Pankratz and not us.
   1. Per Sylvia Smiley: Motions to reject
      a. Motion 2nd by: Melissa Wyder
         i. Rejected

9. Misc
   a. EAC
      i. Deciding what issues to take up this year, if you have suggestions send them to: Naomi Emmett
   b. State of the University Address
      i. October 22, 2018
      ii. 3:30pm

10. Reminders
    a. Staff Council Scholarships
       i. Deadline: September 15, 2018
    b. CARE Awards
       i. Next Deadline: October 31, 2018

11. Upcoming Guest Speakers:
    a. Chief Zacharias

12. Adjournment
    a. Motion to Adjourn
    b. Meeting Adjourned at: 11:05am

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie (Pax) Abrams
Staff Council Secretary/Treasurer