**Purpose**

The staff senate is designated by the University of West Florida President as the official body representing University employees, and is the primary forum to which employees may express matters of general concern. The function of the Staff Senate is to serve as a two-way channel of communication for flow of information concerning matters of interest to and from University employees.

**Responsibilities**

- To expand our spirit of unity, pride and cooperation by being recognized equally with the Faculty Senate and Student Government Association as participants in advising the University administration.
- To provide a forum for information exchange and dissemination among staff pertaining to matters of interest and concern to University staff.
- To provide open meetings where employee representatives may express, propose, represent, consider, debate and recommend action on issues which, upon majority approval, bear the authority of a responsible voice in University affairs.
- To provide a mechanism for support and professional growth.
- To involve democratically chosen staff representatives in operation of the University in order to increase awareness of interrelating problems and opportunities.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month and are open to all University staff employees.
**MEMBERSHIP**

The Staff Senate is comprised of voting members elected from various University geographic areas to ensure balanced representation from all campus locations.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Eligible individuals include any staff employee who has been employed full time for a minimum of one calendar year. Representatives are elected for staggered, three-year terms.

**STAFF SENATE ONLINE**

The Staff Senate website is the communication tool that will be widely used by the Senate to disseminate information to employees at UWF.

The site includes:
- Our charter, bylaws and objectives
- A *Hot Topic*, which is the important issue of the month that concerns all employees at the University
- Meeting dates, agendas and minutes
- Information regarding activities and socials
- UWF standing committees
- A list of senators, to include the executive board
- Current projects and employee assistance programs

**EMPLOYEE EMERGENCY FUND**

The purpose of the Employee Emergency Fund is to assist UWF permanent employees (staff and faculty) who request financial assistance due to circumstances resulting from an emergency.

*See website for eligibility and application requirements.*

**EMPLOYEE TEXTBOOK SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The purpose of the Employee Textbook Scholarship Fund is to provide members of UWF Staff with financial assistance in the pursuit of an associate, baccalaureate, master’s or doctorate degree.

*See website for eligibility and application requirements.*

**ANNUAL PROJECTS**

- Food drive
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hand to Paw Project
- Holiday Gala
- Nautilus Excellence Awards
- Staff Senate BBQ
- Toys for Tots

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**Employee donations make it possible for us to serve those in need.**

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**PAYROLL DEDUCTION:**

- Begin my new payroll deduction of $______ per pay period, effective ____________
- Change my current payroll deduction to $______ per pay period, effective ____________
- Process a one-time gift of $______ via payroll deduction on this pay date: ____________

**I WOULD LIKE MY GIFT TO HELP:**

- Employee Emergency Fund
- Employee Textbook Scholarship Fund

*If you select multiple funds, please indicate how much goes to each fund:

  Emergency Fund: $__________
  Textbook Fund: $__________

**ANNUAL GIFT:**

My Gift is:

- $__________
- Check—Make payable to the UWF Foundation, Inc.
  - Credit Card
    - Visa
    - Mastercard
    - American Express

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**UWF ID#: __________________**

**Name: __________________**

**Campus Extension: __________________**

**Signature: __________________**

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**Staff Senate**

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**Staff Senate**

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**Staff Senate**