

**Staff Governance Council
Meeting Agenda and Minutes
December 13, 2023**

Agenda

1. Updates for the group

a. Kelsey heard back from Justin B and Matt Y at California Lutheran:

i. Whether they have encountered similar legal concerns from their college counsel about staff governance:

1. Justin shared: *“Regarding legal issues with Staff Governance, no, that is not something which has been an issue for us. With our model, Staff Governance does not have any authority to set policy. Instead, we serve as a body to facilitate communication and provide input. Also, our Staff Assembly Chair serves as a representative to our Board of Regents, but does not have a voting position on the Board.”*

2. Matt also added: *“Just in the last few weeks, we’ve included our General Counsel in discussions on our bylaw revisions. We’re all looking to ensure that the bylaws are in compliance with California state law. That said, we haven’t come across any major, substantive issues on this front. I’d only suggest that yes, you definitely ask your university counsel to be a part of such a discussion.”*

ii. What they feel they have been able to accomplish through their Staff Senate that would not otherwise have been possible:

1. Justin shared (and Matt agreed): *“Not sure I can get into too much detail, but in general, Cal Lutheran has been prioritizing several campus-wide strategic initiatives. Communication and collaboration with all staff is critical to the development, execution, and success of those initiatives. Our monthly Staff Senate meetings have been the forum where much of that communication and*

collaboration takes place. All staff are invited to attend those meetings, but Senators are expected to both attend and relay key takeaways to their constituents. The end result is that staff are more informed and engaged, and they are better able to provide input. Staff have a broader understanding of challenges and opportunities beyond their day-to-day responsibilities. I think this has made us more supportive, collaborative, and strategic.”

- b. Other updates?
2. Finalize our document to share with President Singer