

Thank you, Dr. Mason, for inviting Staff Senate to be a part of this virtual Convocation! While we have been challenged this academic year, but have come out on top, we are looking forward to seeing more people face to face, and to having more events on campus.

One of my goals this year as Staff Senate President was to increase awareness and communication about Staff Senate. We have emailed our meeting information every month in TigerDaily, have an increased number of guests attending our monthly meetings, and have also created a bylaws and goals committees. The purpose of the bylaws committee is to analyze and reevaluate our bylaws and to make suggestions to senate for productive and cohesive changes. The intention of the goals committee is to collectively gather aspirations of Staff Senate. These aspirations are directly related to the growth and impact Staff Senate would like to provide for our peers throughout the University. We have re-started our University Staff Scholarship Fund, which provides funds for course materials to full-time employees taking FHSU courses. We continue to work with our senates at the other KBOR schools to collaborate and advocate for staff, at a state level as well as an individual school level.

It's extremely important that all staff across our campus feel like they have a voice. We appreciate Dr. Mason and all of the members of the Senior and Executive Leadership Team for allowing Staff Senate to participate and have a seat at the table and listen to all of the concerns of our staff.

I would encourage each of you to review our website ([www.fhsu.edu/staff-senate](http://www.fhsu.edu/staff-senate)) frequently, as we regularly post meeting agendas, minutes, staff scholarship process, and other important information. We look forward to the next academic year and continuing to be a part of this great institution.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Whitmer  
Staff Senate President