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Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

Staff Senate

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Minutes Staff Senate Meeting, August 12, 2004

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Minutes
STAFF SENATE MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2004
STAFF SENATE RETREAT

- I.** The Staff Senate Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Jewel Lindsey
- Members Present:** Donald Blagg, Janet Bowlin, Renee Clay, Tammie Edrington, David Edwards, Patricia Edwards, Candy Erbe, Tommi Featherston, Scott Fendley, Nancy Fondren, Carla Gray, Kenley Haley, Vicky Hartwell, Carrie Jackson, Jewel Lindsey, Eric Linson, Bruce McNully, Robert Moller, Bonnie Swayze, Barbara Taylor, Eric Vaught and Susan Yell.
- Members Absent:** Mary Beth Lohr, Jonathan Nelson, Joe Terry and Shelley Wilmoth
- II.** A motion was presented, seconded, and approved to adopt the agenda as presented.
- III.** A motion was presented, seconded, and approved to adopt the July 8th, 2004 minutes.
- IV.** Guest Speakers for Staff Senate Retreat
- A.** Richard Hudson- Vice Chancellor for Government Relations
An overview of the upcoming legislation session for 2005 was discussed.

Question and Discussion

- The affect of the public school protection mandate on Higher Ed
- Phase out of the 3% income tax surcharge
- No large budget cuts for FY 2005
- Some concern about budget cuts for FY 2006 and 2007
- Surplus Funds not earmarked for specific projects are to be returned to the legislative unit
- Term limits most severe in country
- Possible Political Action Committee created to lobby Legislative Unit on behalf of Arkansas Higher Education institutions. "Old Main PAC"
- Sick Leave Payout

Staff Senate Action Items:

- Facilitate a lunch with the Legislators and the Staff Senate
- Assess the status of CLIP

B. Renee Clay- Staff Senator for 5 Years

An overview of the accomplishments and previous goals of the Staff Senate and the work, dedication and satisfaction of participating on the senate was presented by Renee.

Past Senate Accomplishments

- Community Service Award
- Staff Scholarship
- Dental Insurance

Staff Senate Action Items:

- Parking: Research, document and push for a sliding scale for new deck parking for staff members
- Employee Tuition: Continue research, advocate and support the continuation of the current employee tuition benefit offered to staff.
- Salaries: Bring more attention (press release) to staff salaries and their comparison to national and private industry standards
- Childcare: Develop a mini business plan to develop the property (former private daycare center) acquired by U of A as a child care source and benefit for staff

C. Larry Slamons- Director, U of A Police

An overview of the current safety, crime and other issues with Lt. Crane and Cpt. O'Kelly was presented.

Question and Discussion

- Cpt. O'Kelly
 - Substations
 - Radar Stats
 - Mapping
 - Emergency Phones
- Lt. Crane
 - Coordination of Safety Committees with Staff Senate and Faculty Senate
 - Cross Walk Safety
 - Increase Lighting
 - Speed and Accidents

D. Gary Smith- Director, Transit and Parking

An overview of current parking situations was presented.

Questions and Discussion:

- Hammons Parking Deck spaces, pricing and procedures
- Hammons cost \$26.6 Million
- Availability and current situations of various lots located on campus
- Construction disruptions and sidewalk issues on South East Campus area
- Prospective location of additional future parking decks
- Revamping of visitors parking lot located between ADMN and HUNT

V. Break for Lunch

VI. Business Meeting called to order by Kenley Haley.

Kenley Haley announced the resignation of Tay-Sha Carter and reported openings for the Chancellors Office and the Academic Affairs areas. Currently there are not any available candidates so suggestions and nomination are needed.

Staff Senate Action Items:

- Create an Ad hoc committee to work on the Child Care Issue

VII. Legislative Committee- Bruce McNully

Staff Senate Action Items:

- Creating a real presence at this year's legislative session with staff representation there every two weeks.
- Vote for candidates that have a favorable Higher Education stance
- Have a forum for candidates
- Develop "Talking Points" for each senator
- All day trip to Little Rock in January for Legislative Meetings.

VIII. Internal Affairs- Renee Clay

Renee was unable to report, Kenely Haley presented instead. The "Staff Senate Resolution Addressing the Potential Increase in

Employee Tuition” was presented. A motion to submit to Dr. Pederson was presented, seconded and approved.

Staff Senate Action Items:

- Develop and document a parking and transit fee proposal
- Develop and prepare a “mini business plan” and proposal for daycare

IX. Scholarships & Awards- Candy Erbe

Candy announces the senate will recognize the staff graduates from the spring and summer terms at the September meeting. The Team Award was approved and will need to be entered into the bylaws.

X. Finance- Vicky Hartwell

Vicky indicated there was nothing new to report at this time.

Staff Senate Action Items:

- Earmark funds for the following:
 - Health Fair
 - Candidate Forum

XI. Elections- Jewel Lindsey

All new senators are required to serve on the Elections Committee

XII. Communications

Jewel reported that Donnie Blagg was updating the website and that any suggestions should be e-mailed to Jewel.

XIII. Safety- Joe Terry

Joe Terry was not present.

XIV. Parking & Transit- Donnie Blagg

Donnie Blagg was not present.

XV. Employee of the Quarter—Susan Yell

Susan reported that Dr. Pederson approved splitting Category one, Profession, into two categories: Professional Titles Academic and Professional. Beginning this FY Staff Senate will be honoring five Employees of the Quarter instead of four.

The following staff members were honored as Employees of the 4th Quarter::

Professional/Nonfaculty - Peggy L. Melton, Library Accountant, Law Library

Secretarial/Clerical - Tucker Boys, Mail Officer, Mailing Services

Technical/Paraprofessional - Judith A. Haney, Accounting Tech II, Food Science

Skilled Crafts/Service/Maintenance - Geneva L. Hicks, Custodial Worker II, Facilities Management

XVI. Strategy session and goal setting for 2004-2005

Senate gathered into small groups and generate list of Short, Medium and Long Term Goals.

Short Term

- Parking- Sliding Scale
- Childcare
- Communication
 - Administrative & Legislative
 - Website Development
 - Employee
- Employee Education and Awareness on Privacy Issues
- Staff Tuition Policy
- Advisory Committee with Faculty, Staff and ASG
- Campus Wide Challenge for the Staff Scholarship Fund
- Open Invitation to Deans and Directors
- Competitive Salaries
- Staff Senate Brochure
- Sick Leave Buyout

Mid Term

- CLIP Program

Long Term

- Early Retirement
- Re-mapping of Education Fees College to College

XVII. Adjournment- A motion was presented, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Sherrie F. Robins, Recording Secretary