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Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

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2005-08-11

## Minutes Staff Senate Meeting, August 11, 2005

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Staff Senate

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**MINUTES**  
**STAFF SENTATE RETREAT**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2005**

- I. The Staff Senate Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair, Kenley Haley.
- Members Present:** Paul Bixby, Donnie Blagg, Renee Clay, Patricia Edwards, Candy Erbe, Tommi Featherston, Scott Fendley, Leanna Foshe, Carla Gray, Kenley Haley, Ashley Harris, Carrie Jackson, Eric Linson, Jeremy McAtee, Bruce, McNully, Dianne Melahn, Felisha Perrodin, Barbara Taylor, Eric Vaught and Susan Yell.
- Members Absent:** Jami Coker, Nancy Fondren, Gerald Golden, Vicky Hartwell, Robert Mackey, Jonathan Nelson and Liz Williams.
- II. A motion was presented, seconded and approved to adopt the agenda as written.
- III. A motion was presented, seconded and approved to adopt the July 14, 2005 minutes.
- IV. **Recognition of Employees of the Quarter** – Presented by Susan Yell and Kenley Haley
- a. Professional/Nonfaculty – Trish Watkins, Accountant, Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness
  - b. Secretarial/Clerical – Carla Munyon, Repro Equipment Operations Supervisor, Printing Services
  - c. Technical/Paraprofessional – Sandy Bramlet, Administrative Assistant II, Graduate School
  - d. Skilled Crafts/Service/Maintenance – Ron Hoskins, Journeyman Electrician, Facilities Management
- V. **Recognition of Employees of the Year** – Presented by Renee Clay
- a. Professional/Nonfaculty – Scott Kilgore, Plant Maintenance Coordinator, Facilities Management
  - b. Secretarial/Clerical – Lisa Frye, Secretary II, Geography
  - c. Technical/Paraprofessional – Darlene Winn, Dispatch Operator, Facilities Management
  - d. Skilled Crafts/Service/Maintenance –Rick Haley, Journeyman Welder, Facilities Management
- VI. **GED Recognition**  
Employees Honored: Beverly Bartz, Trish Leming and Tammy Ward.

**VII. Guest Speaker: Richard Hudson – Vice Chancellor for Government Relations**

- a. Overview on effects of Pres. Bush Highway Improvement Plan. Money provided for Technology Corridor Project (Razorback Rd. and Cato Springs Rd. improvements) and to Transit Center improvements
- b. College Savings Bond Program
  - i. Additional \$150 million to be given to state universities
  - ii. Funds for the bond program must be voted on by state. Hopes to have on 2006 ballot.
  - iii. UofA to receive 16 million
  - iv. Plans to use part on construction of Nano-Tech building
  - v. Request for assistance with setting up E-corridor (Internet 3)
- c. Pay Plan Study – Will be done for classified and non-classified positions. Wanting to have completed by October 2006.
- d. Office of Personnel Management website update.
- e. Regional hiring practices revamping to bring in workers from construction area.
- f. Working on single formula to calculate sick leave availability.
- g. Email Richard at [rhudson@uark.edu](mailto:rhudson@uark.edu) for updates on state capital legislation.

**VIII. Guest Speaker: Bob Smith – Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs**

- a. General Highlights of changes and updates from 2000 – 2005
- b. Topics included: 2010 Commission, Diversity Task Force, Campaign for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, New degrees on campus, Research & Federal Initiatives, AR Research & Technology Park, Outreach & International Partnerships, Experience the Present, Anticipating Our Future

**IX. Guest Speakers: Graham Gillis – Director, System Level, Fringe Benefits & Richard Ray – Human Resources, Benefits**

- a. Health Plan
  - i. Plan design was changed for January 2005, and rate increase into effect on July 1, 2005 (5%)
  - ii. Currently no changes for 2006
  - iii. Review of Any Willing Provider (AWP) – Insurance company can not prevent a hospital or doctor from coming into network as long as they agree to fee schedule for reimbursement
- b. Pharmacy
  - i. Currently looking for possible alternatives to lower costs
  - ii. Decision will be made by October
  - iii. Changes will be transparent
- c. Medicare – Part D
  - i. Working to get all details straightened out, does not appear any changes at current time

- ii. Evaluation will take place again next year
- d. Reminder to use Trestle Tree and EDoc
- e. Retirement
  - i. TIAA CREF – New plan ideas for next year. New options will go public in April 2006
  - ii. ROTH 403B – Per Federal Government is effective 1/1/06, many changes will need to take place before then. Unknown what changes might be.

X. Break for lunch

**XI. Guest Speaker: Don Pederson – Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration**

Spoke on Generation Millennial, their entrance into Higher Education and the affects it will have on all aspects of university life.

**XII. Guest Speaker: Johnetta Cross Brazzell – Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs**

Spoke on rituals and traditions and how they bridge students into the university. Working to reinforce old traditions and create new ones. One ritual is the Academic Convocation for new freshmen. It helps to set their sights towards their graduation ceremony. Staff Senate Chair will be involved with planning next year to bring staff into this event.

**XIII. General Session**

- a. Internal Affairs – Renee Clay  
Floated idea - Alternatives needed for parking charges on campus. Trying to find way to offset charges for the Harmon garage. Possible different rating for each floor.
- b. Parking & Transit – Donnie Blagg  
Discussion with Barbra Taylor regarding payroll deduction for permits. It was unclear who set up the 8 month regulation. Action: Set up meeting between Parking & Transit and Human Resources Payroll to discuss problem, and see if 12 month deduct possible.
- c. Scholarship Committee – Candy Erbe  
Community Service Award Winner – Kelley Hester - Women's Golf Coach

**XIV. Guest Speaker: Gary Smith – Director, Parking & Transit**

- a. Harmon Parking Deck
  - i. Scheduled to open Aug 17, 2005
  - ii. 24/7 Reserved spots available. All others are hourly spots.  
Validators available for departmental purchases to assist visitors.

- iii. Use of temporary access card and gate instead of having to purchase visitor parking pass.
- b. Permits
  - i. Transferable so can move from car to car if needed.
  - ii. Barcode to allow ticket writers to write citations to correct person.
  - iii. Now one Student permit for on or off campus.

**Action:** Working with Human Resources to have payroll deduction for permits set to 12 months.

## **XV. Goals Forum**

Senate gathered into small groups to discuss the previous year's goals, and brainstorm with goals for the new year.

### **Priorities**

- Childcare
- Parking
  - Sliding scale
  - 12 month payroll deduct
  - Shareholder parking issues
  - More shuttles
  - Tickets
- KU State Pay Plan Study
- Re-orientation on new policies for employees
- Retirement
  - Insurance allowed after 5 years instead of 10
- Longevity Award Increase
- Scholarships
  - Presence at New Employee Orientation
  - Fundraisers
  - Picnic – get donations
- Invite new Deans to senate meetings
- Merit Based Pay/Raises
- Protect employee/family tuition from increases
- Award Increases
  - EOY to \$750
  - EOQ to \$100
  - Team to \$1250 - \$2500
  - Others?
- Staff Senate Elections online
  - Increase awareness of labs
  - Awareness of free training classes
- Funding – Administration (parking)
- Website
  - Newsletter online

XVI. Adjournment – A motion was presented, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 pm

**Respectfully Submitted by:**  
**Julie Cato, Recording Secretary**