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Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

Staff Senate

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Minutes Staff Senate Meeting, April 11, 2013

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Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2013

Arkansas Union 507-508

Members present: Stephanie Adams, Jeremy Battjes, Denise Bignar, Kelly Carter, J'onnelle Colbert-Diaz, Mary Coonley, Elizabeth Cunningham, Lonnie Deavens, Heather England. Lisa Frye, Kabrina Gardner, Andy Gilbride, Melynda Hart, Roy Hatcher, Jeremy McAtee, Chris Nixon, Sarah O'Brien, Eve Owens, Autumn Parker, Henry Rowe, Roman Ruiz, Sue Donohue Smith, Eric Specking, Lisa Turner, Eric Vaught, Trish Watkins

Members absent: Barbara Abercrombie, Donnie Blagg, Angela Davis, Michael Gibbs, Ryan Miller

- I. The meeting was called to order by Jeremy Battjes at 9:33am
- II. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adopt the agenda with changes.
- III. Roll Call – Sarah O'Brien
- IV. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the meeting minutes with corrections.
- V. Committee reports
 - a) EOQ – Kelly Carter; Monday at 5 is the deadline for nominations. The committee sent emails out to departments who had technical paraprofessional positions (category 3) to solicit nominations as we still need nominations in this category. A story will also be submitted on Newswire.
 - b) Elections – Chris Nixon; Chris updated and thanked the Elections Committee for all of their help. Elections will open April 19th and will close April 25th. Officer nominations are now open and will close at the May Staff Senate meeting. Nominations can be made at a meeting or on the listserv. A senator may not run for more than one officer position.
 - c) Special Events – Melynda Hart; The picnic will be on May 16th and will be from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Lisa Turner is handling vendor booths. Autumn will put donation letter and sign-up sheet for door prizes on SharePoint. We need 12 senators to help with set-up on May 15th from 1-3 p.m. We also need Senators that can help clean up. Please email Melynda if you can help.
 - d) Transit, Parking & Safety – Jeremy McAtee;

- The old Infant Development Center on Lot 38 was torn down and it will become a lot designated for scooter parking.
- Construction Phase 1 of the old engineering hall is moving to Phase 2.
- Ozark Hall is scheduled to be finished in August, 2013.

VI. Old Business

- a) Concealed-Carry Resolution – Trish Watkins; During the February meeting a motion passed for the Legislative Committee to write a resolution in support of our Administration’s stance concerning the HB 1243 (concealed-carry) Bill. The law passed within a week of our meeting; therefore, the Legislative Committee requested a motion to release them from writing a resolution. A motion was made, seconded and approved.
- b) Short Term Disability Update – Jeremy Battjes; It is in the budget request now for coverage up to \$45,000 for classified staff. However, we won’t know until April 30th whether or not it is going to be funded.
- c) Parking Rate Adjustment Discussion - Jeremy Battjes; Jeremy Battjes and Jeremy McAtee attended the Faculty Senate meeting to share the parking rate adjustment that was presented to Transit & Parking. Faculty Senate is neutral at the moment and feels that the increase should not affect employees making \$30,000 or below. If we can find a way to do the adjustment without it negatively affecting the employees making less than \$30,000, then we have a resounding yes. At this point the adjustment would not be effective until FY15.

VII. Around the Senate

- a) Sue Donohue Smith announced that the Sustainability Council, Office of Sustainability and the Arkansas Union will host activities and will have a vendor fair during Earth Week.
- b) Henry Rowe announced that the Campus Council meeting will be on Wednesday, April 17th at 4 p.m. in Giffels Auditorium. If anyone is interested in serving as Campus Council Chair, please let Jeremy Battjes know.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 10:03am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah O'Brien