

Minutes from the Staff Senate Meeting

February 11, 2015

Attendees

Brian Bagwell, Teresa Bird, Julie Cissell, Amy Cooley, Zac Evans, Christopher Golston, Keasha Gordon-Turner, Sheila Hollis, Pam Ligon, Dawn Mabery, Tonia McBay, Randy McCauley, Veronikha Salazar, Alisha Reid, Elizabeth Taggard, Wanda Tigue Proxy: Tina Furr (for Josh Hebig) Faculty Senate Representative: Dr. Maggie Tudor Guests: Jacob Mills

Members Absent

Josh Hebig, Amy Hunnewell-Fitroy, Arsala Khan, Troy Mitchell

Agenda

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 by Julie Cissell

Old Business

- Minutes from January meeting were approved

New Business

- President's Report-
 - Julie met with President Glen Jones and Vice President Bobby Jones regarding the pothole at RFA. It has been partially filled and should no longer pose a risk
 - Discussion around staff awards and luncheons. President Jones has tasked the Staff Senate with forming a committee to look at revamping our current structure and to come up with new ideas and incentives for the staff. The committee will be looking at other Arkansas University's to benchmark ideas. Brian Bagwell volunteered to be on the committee and Julie will be appointing other members. We would like to partner with the Faculty Senate, and look into ideas around quarterly and monthly opportunities in addition to anniversaries and retirements for recognition. The committee will then draft a proposal for President Jones.
 - President Jones extended an invite to the Staff Senate President and President Elect to join the President's Cabinet
- Guest Speaker Jacob Mills with the Shared Governance Oversight Committee
 - This committee was launched last year and they meet every first and third Wednesday of the month.
 - The initial task force compared other universities processes and adapted them to Henderson
 - This committee meets regarding proposals that affect the campus as a whole and it is an open forum
 - There is a flow-chart on myHenderson that shows the process and timelines (expedited, normal, extended)
 - http://myhenderson.hsu.edu/ICS/Shared_Governance/

- All proposals will be visible on myHenderson and will receive a response, if it is declined an explanation will be provided and it can be proposed again with modifications based on the explanation
 - Additional information on the process and the committee members is available on the Shared Governance tab on myHenderson
- Election Committee Report
 - Special election with call for nominations has been met with a lack of interest from eligible nominees
 - New employees are not eligible until they have a year of service and it was suggested to have the eligibility reduced to six months of service. Elizabeth Taggard will draft a proposal to be presented to the staff body. Twenty or more will need to sign the petition submitted by the election committee, will need majority 2/3 vote from Board of Trustees
 - Two special elections are still ongoing, the alternate position for Finance and Administration had one individual accept the nomination. Phyllis Cogburn will now serve as an alternate.
- Textbook Scholarship Committee
 - Currently only one application has been submitted
 - Christopher has provided applications around campus and expects to have at least four
- Staff Handbook Committee
 - Have met once and partnered with Penny Kinder from HR as ex officio
 - Pam will be attending a webcast regarding ideas for updating and modifying employee handbooks
- Announcement and Staff Concerns
 - Staff member had voiced a concern of the term end dates of the majority of the Staff Senate, currently five members terms end in 2015 and the remainder all end in 2016
 - Recent losses in senate members has caused the term dates to align
 - Suggested we look at extending term dates to ensure we have experienced members still serving in 2017
 - Pending the outcome of the nominee eligibility amendment proposal this will be reviewed again
 - Inquiry if there would be another Safety Walk as concerned about lighting behind the dining hall and East/West Halls
 - Physical Plant provided update that new lights had just arrived and were being installed at RFA on 2/11 and were scheduled for the South Lawn and Huie Library next week and the Centurium would be lit as well
 - Amy Cooley asked that an email be sent to the physical plant team regarding the lighting from Foster Hall to Smith Hall behind the dining hall
 - Concern regarding parking and signage in front of Foster Hall
 - Suggested to have the island in front of Foster Hall removed to allow for additional parking, currently it is only handicapped parking
 - Sign outside of building is out of date, does not reflect recent changes and is confusing for students and visitors
 - Safety concern regarding location of student computer lab, considered to be in a poor location and not easily accessible for wheelchairs
 - Printer is positioned on table that needs to be lowered since not all could reach it in its current location
 - 24 hour accessibility was also mentioned as that was a great benefit on campus

- Residence Life reminded everyone that applications for student housing at Whispering Oaks and the new Apartments was now available and all students received information via their Henderson student email accounts.
- Question raised about the Henderson State University sign by the new apartment complex and if it would be made functional and/or moved

Meeting was adjourned at 11:18