

The University of Mississippi

Minutes of Meeting April 7, 2010

Staff Council

PPD Conference Room

Present: Dotty Baker, Prema Balachandran, Jeff Boyd, Dawn Bullion, Sandra Cox-McCarty, Tiffany Edwards, Mark Garneau, Alicia Goodson, Shelia Goolsby, Doug Gurley, Ashley Harrell, Shellie Harrison, Marla Holcomb, Mary Ann Kerr, Elaine Little, Erin Miller, Patricia Oswalt, Lori Patton, Johnny Price, Anita Randle, Neal Sellers, John Supple, Sovent Taylor, Precious Pratt Thompson, Ryan Upshaw, Dorothy Vaughn, Benita Whitehorn

Absent-Excused: Debbie Bishop, Lisa Bishop, Carol Bullard, Stan Fortner, Melinda Grimmett, Angie Gurner, Johnette Taylor Jenkins, Natcha Knight-Evans, Julius Minor, Valerie Moncrief, Jacqueline Vinson, Paula Park

Absent-Unexcused: Mark Camarigg, Stephanie Mitchell

Call to order: Ryan called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker:

Jo Ann O'Quin spoke briefly regarding the upcoming Annual Aging Conference. The fair called Caring for Aging Relatives Effectively, C.A.R.E., will be held Friday, April 23rd in the Student Union Lobby from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. There will be 30 booths at the fair and a workshop. Lydia Jones will be the keynote speaker at 9:00 a.m. More information is available on the website www.olemiss.edu/carefair.

April is Disability Awareness Month. Stacey Reycraft, Director of Student Disability Services. Her office serves 550-600 students per semester. They serve students with wheelchairs, chronic disorders, anything that medically affects their time in a classroom. Classroom accommodations vary according to the needs of the student but include and are not limited to note taking, extended time on exams, preferred seating at the front of the class. If the student has visual disabilities, her office can convert reading to alternative text, transfer to MP3 file, or Braille. If the student is hearing impaired, this office can provide American Sign Language interpretations. For those with chronic illnesses or psychiatric disorders, this office can assist with attendance issues by contacting the instructor and being the liaison for the student. This office serves faculty by answering questions on how to best serve students with disabilities and mediating between students, parents, and faculty. They work with administration by working to become more visible on campus. They will be hosting an Open House on April 22nd. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome. It will be an all day event until 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Introduction of New Representatives: Ryan introduced our new representatives. They are: Lori Patton, Ashley Harrell, and John Supple.

Minutes: March minutes approved by consensus

Treasurer's Report: March treasurer's report approved by consensus.

Unfinished Business:

- a) Website – Is up and running and Stephanie will discuss at the next meeting.
- b) COMPASS – Staff Council had a table at the service fair. There was a drawing for a basketball and people signed up for the mentor list. Anita thinks we will have a good response to this idea once word spreads.
- c) Staff Appreciation Week – Meetings every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. in Ventress Hall for committee members. Mandatory attendance now required until the event.
- d) Fundraiser Raffle – Staff Council will have 2 raffles to sponsor the Children of Staff Scholarship. The committee is trying to raise \$1000. In April, the raffle will be for a \$50 gift card to Kabuki. The tickets are \$1 each. The May raffle will be for a \$50 Kroger gift card and \$50 Chevron gas card. These tickets will be \$2 each. Each Staff Council member is asked to sell 25 tickets each and ticket money will be due on April 28th for the April raffle.
- e) Al Neely – He thanks the Staff Council for help in his time of need. \$1403.00 was raised to help with funeral costs for his grandson.

New Business:

- a) Committee Reports –
 - Staff Appreciation – Patricia Oswalt reports that this event is on track. The committee meets every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. in Ventress Hall.
 - Student Relations – Exam Breakfast is coming up, volunteers were requested and requests to find Celebrity Servers.
 - Green Week – April 19-23 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
- b) No Standing Committee Reports
- c) Outstanding Staff Member for March is Dr. Troy Smillie, Senior Scientist in the National Center for Product Research at the School of Pharmacy. He will be given a certificate and coupon for the Commons for this honor. He was nominated Prema Balachandran.
- d) Staff Council business cards – These will be ordered for general distribution at events.

Announcements/Concerns

- a) Hard workers for March – Ryan thanked Anita Randle and Sandra Cox-McCarty for working the table at the service fair and anyone who worked on the Chancellor's Inauguration.
- b) Staff Council Representative of the Month is Anita Randle for her hard work on the COMPASS project. The council thanks Anita for all her hard work on Staff Council.
- c) Inauguration – will be broadcast on Channel 99 and can be seen at the Overby Center or on the Inauguration website.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Next meeting: May 5th at 2:30 p.m., Physical Plant Conference Room. There will be no guest speaker for this meeting because of plans for Staff Appreciation Week.