

Minutes of August 2, 2000 meeting

2:30 p.m., Room 404 A/B Union



PRESENT:

Julie Andrews, Woodson Boyden, Betty Brown, Joni Camp, Sylvia Denton, Cherry Douglas, Shirley Fisher, Earlene Foster, Laura Gillom, Melissa Hudson, Buddy Kahler, Anne Klingen, Theresa Knight, Denise Knighton, Jonnie Manning, Janea McDonald, Mark Miller, Traci Mitchell, Shannon Naron, Tony Seaman, Sherry Wall, Sandra Williams

EXCUSED:

Bettie Bey, Mary Chrestman, Buster Clark, Martha Deal, Shellie Harrison, Lynn Mills, Jerry Moore, Conny Parham, Donna Patton, Lamar Pickens, Michael Vanderlip

UNEXCUSED:

Judy Fos, Etta Miller

President Sherry Wall called the meeting to order.

NEW MEMBERS:

Sherry welcomed Tony Seaman, representative at-large, replacing Clay Jones.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. The minutes for the July meeting of the Staff Council were approved with no corrections.
- B. Mary Chrestman was not available to give the Treasurer's Report, but financial statements are still not available for June or July 2000.
- C. President Wall announced that Mark Miller has withdrawn his name from the ballot for President-Elect. The floor was opened for nominations. Jonnie Manning asked Buddy Kahler if he would be willing to have his name put forth as a nominee. Buddy was willing to be nominated. No other nominations were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations and to elect Buddy Kahler by acclamation. Motion was carried. Buddy Kahler is the new President-Elect of the Staff Council.
- D. President Wall gave a report on the MASCO (Mississippi Association of Staff Council Organizations) that she attended on July 13th. The guest speaker at MASCO was Dr. Phil Pepper, State Economist. Dr. Pepper predicted that the state is going to have to cut the budget by 5% by January, if not sooner. If this is done, IHL will be one of the first groups to be affected by the cut.

A few days later, Dr. Tom Layzell of the IHL Board announced that he was going to propose a 4% pay increase for all faculty and staff for the next 3 years. MASCO is going on record as supporting Dr. Layzell's proposal for the 4% increase.

At this point, we are unsure how accurate Dr. Pepper's prediction may be. Dr. Pepper was asked by someone at

MASCO about the "rainy day fund". He said he knew only that it was a fund controlled by the state legislature.

Ole Miss will request to host MASCO for the March 2001 meeting.

- E. The Staff Council received a request from Linda Sallis to look into the purchase of Automated External Defibrillators (ADE) to be placed in several buildings around campus, and also to train personnel to use these machines. The Executive Committee of the Staff Council discussed this at their last meeting, and it was decided to mention this request to Dr. Khayat the next time they meet with him. President Wall asked Linda Sallis to provide additional information relating to the costs of the machines. Several of the members of the council were concerned about the liability incurred if the machines were used, about the necessity of such expensive machines which require specialized training (since an ambulance can be on campus within 3 minutes), and about the costs of the machines. The Staff Council does not have funds available to purchase these machines. President Wall stated that unless the council instructed her otherwise, she would turn this request over to the Chancellor.
- F. A list of the speakers that have been suggested and possible topics for them to address are:
1. An EMT -- to discuss the ADEs, first aid, and CPR
 2. Johnny Williams, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance; and Larry Sparks, Director of Project DISCOVER -- to discuss the current status of Project DISCOVER and also the Re-Engineering Project
 3. Dr. Tom Layzell, Commissioner of IHL -- to discuss his proposal of 4% pay raises and the budget
 4. Gray Tollison, State Senator; and Jay Eads, State Representative -- hopefully to come in November (before the legislative session) and discuss
 - a. Legislative issues
 - b. Pay raises
 - c. 5% budget cut predicted by Dr. Pepper
 - d. Dr. Layzell's proposal of 4% salary increases
 - e. Donated leave time
 - f. First day of illness deducted from personal leave
 5. Gary Anderson, Director of MS Department of Finance and Administration; and someone from the state insurance board -- to talk about the insurance program and network
 6. Lt. Governor Amy Tuck -- to talk about the Rainy Day Fund
 7. Chancellor Robert Khayat

Traci Mitchell reported that Speaker of the House Tim Ford will be on campus this Thursday, and Lt. Governor Amy Tuck will be on campus this Friday. President Wall stated she would contact Andy Mullin's office to see if either had any time for her to talk to them to set up meetings.

Anyone who has suggestions or questions for the speakers is urged to send them to Sherry Wall at the Physical Plant Department, or email them to her at swall@olemiss.edu.

- G. Julie Andrews reported for the Special Events Committee. The next upcoming event will be the Meet and Greet Students on August 21st and 22nd. This is where volunteers stand at different places around campus and answer students' questions and help them locate their classes. Volunteers are asked to be at their appointed post 15 minutes before class time and stay for 15 minutes after class time. Anyone who is willing to serve should contact Julie Andrews at 7411 or Joni Camp at 7234.
- H. Move-In Mania is scheduled for Saturday, August 19th. Anyone interested in helping should contact Bonnie Reid in the Housing Department.
- I. Sherry reported that Mary Chrestman had talked with Gray Tollison concerning the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Senator Tollison stated he had been in touch with the federal agency about reducing the waiting period from 6 months to 3 months. The federal agency has not reduced this waiting period, and the state cannot reduce it. So right now, children must have been without insurance for 6 months before being eligible for CHIP.

J. President Wall gave an update on the situation with the hospital's laboratory not being in the state insurance network. Clay Jones has been talking with Mickey Brown from AHS and Therese Hanna from the State Department of Finance and Administration. Basically the situation is this. In their contract with AHS, the hospital is receiving "administrative" payment for lab work. Because of their contract with Dr. Fullenwider, they are not paying him this "administrative" payment. AHS said they are not willing to pay this amount twice once to the hospital as part of their contract, and once to Dr. Fullenwider when he submits his bills. However, AHS said they are willing to renegotiate the hospital's contract and just pay Dr. Fullenwider for his bill. Dr. James Hahn, hospital administrator, could not be reached for his comment.

Sherry also stated that she wanted to correct something she said last month. Last month it was reported in the minutes that "the \$600 out-of-network deductible is in addition to your \$350 deductible for in-network providers". This is **NOT** true. The \$600 is not in addition to the regular \$350 deductible. There is the regular \$350 deductible, and then a further \$250 deductible for using out-of-network providers for a **total of \$600**.

K. Theresa Knight announced that the Ole Miss Family Celebration Weekend has been set for April 27, 2001. Brenda West and Guthrie Abbott are the co-chairs for this celebration. Theresa suggested that we might ask them to come speak to the Council concerning the planned activities for this weekend. This is the weekend that the Lyceum will be re-dedicated, the new Paris-Yates Chapel will be dedicated, and there will be lots more activities planned.

The meeting was adjourned.

/s/Sherry Wall, President

/s/Buddy Kahler, President-Elect

/s/Jonnie Manning, Secretary

Staff Council e-mail address: staffcouncil@olemiss.edu

Staff Council Homepage: http://www.olemiss.edu/orgs/staff_council/

If you are interested in joining the Staff Listserv, please visit the Staff Council Homepage or talk to a Staff Council Representative or send an e-mail message to Majordomo@listserv.olemiss.edu with the words "*subscribe staff*" in the body of the e-mail message.