The University of Mississippi
Staff Council
Minutes of Meeting August 5, 2009
PPD Conference Room

Present: Dotty Baker, Prema Balachandran, Holly Bethune, Debbie Bishop, Lisa Bishop, Carol Bullard, Tiffany Edwards, Stan Fortner, Mark Garneau, Angie Gurner, Marla Holcomb, Chad Hunter, MaryAnn Kerr, Natcha Knight-Evans, Erin Miller, Julius Minor, Stephanie Mitchell, Jane Michelletti, Patti Mooney, Patricia Oswalt, Johnny Price, Deborah Purnell, Anita Randle, Dana Ros, Johnette Taylor, Ryan Upshaw, Benita Whitehorn,

Absent-Excused: Sandra Cox-McCarty, Shellie Harrison, Gwen Hutchins, Paula Park, Jennifer Taylor, Jacqueline Vinson, Pam Wilburn

Absent-Unexcused: Neal Sellers

Call to Order: President Johnette Taylor called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Minutes: July minutes approved by consensus.

Treasurer’s Report: July treasurer’s report approved by consensus.

Unfinished Business:

a) Johnette discussed the various places and options that we have for our new Staff Council shirts. Monogram is preferred as oppose to the screen printing. Carol Bullard believes that it will be more cost-friendly to go with Ink Spot due to their quotes. Johnny Price said to inquire about a sample of each shirt. Stan Fortner asked to inquire about a size sample of each shirt. Julius Minor also mentioned about inquiring at Square Alterations for a quote. Johnette will make more calls and gather more information to be shared at next month’s meeting.

b) University Staff member of the Month – will start with Academics for the month of August. Johnette will talk to the Provost to search for the appropriate candidate. The winner will be presented with a certificate and lunch at the Johnson Commons.

c) Meet & Greet – Ryan is coordinating this event this year and is in the process of getting signs done. Johnette asked members to watch for an email from Ryan requesting volunteers to assist.

New Business:

a) The Executive Board met and have reorganized the committees. The Exam Breakfast, Meet & Greet, and Graduation Committees will now fall under the Student Relations Committee. A Hospitality Committee was created and combined the Holiday Party and New Hire Brunch under it. A fundraiser committee was created. The Technology Committee was eliminated and the Website Coordinator was placed with Public Relations. Elections, Staff Appreciation, and Recycling Committees remained the same. Staff Council members have already been asked to fill the vacancies for the Chancellor’s Standing committees for 2009-10. If you have any
questions about these committees or would like to see the list, please contact our past President Shellie Harrison.

b) “Ready, Set, GO!” will be a coffee and donut social held on August 20th from 8-9 a.m. in Bryant Hall. This is a time for staff to come and mingle and get staff involved and excited about the university’s direction. We would like to have this social approximately 4-5 times per year.

c) Textbook Scholarship Program – Tiffany Edwards reported that Larry Sparks advised that we are funded for another year. She said it was asked that staff use this scholarship at the Union Bookstore to keep the money here on campus rather than using outside resources such as outside bookstores or online bookstores. Tiffany stated that the bookstore will price match other bookstores if a better price is found. Part of the funding is going to be put aside for summer use to cover textbook needs.

d) Campus Sustainability Welcome Week Event – to be held Friday August 28th from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Benita will call Ann to find out how many volunteers are needed etc. and Johnette will send email to inform other members.

Announcements/Concerns:
Johnette and the Executive Board voted to re-instate the Staff Council Member of the Month Award. This award will be based on participate and willingness to go above the need to complete tasks. For the month of July the member chosen was Carol Bullard for her good ideas and willingness to always help. She was presented with a certificate and a Pizza Hut card.

Proposed Forthcoming speakers that will address the Staff Council throughout the next year will be: for September will be Jim Ebel, the new Marketing Director in the VC for University Relations Office, for October it will be either Clay Jones or Pam Johnson from Human Resources, for November it will be Dr. Jean Gispin from Employee Health, for January it will be the Chancellor, for February it will be Whitman Smith of Enrollment Services or Amy Whitten of the IHL, for March it will be Andy Mullins with the State of the University address, for April it will be Leteria McDonald the Director of Communitiversity Courses in Outreach.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 3, 2009, Physical Plant Conference Room