

## Minutes of December 5, 2001 meeting

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



### **PRESENT:**

Betty Brown, Dennis Bullard, Joni Camp, Nina Cheshier, Shirley Fisher, Earlene Foster, Shellie Harrison, Melissa Hudson, Sam Johnson, Buddy Kahler, Anne Kligen, Shannon Lovejoy, Jonnie Manning, Jean Pinion, Dave Sagaser, Tony Seaman, Mark Shows, Doug Stuart, Karen Tuttle, Rosa Vance, Sherry Wall, Amanda Wood

### **EXCUSED:**

Mary Harrington, Regina Jordan, Denise Knighton, Lynn Mills, Jeannette Wells

### **UNEXCUSED:**

Dino Johnson, Michele Mize, Conny Parham

Meeting was called to order. President Buddy Kahler welcomed Doug Stuart, Union Facilities Manager, as a new member. Bill McCartney, Director of Student Housing, was guest speaker for the day.

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

Mr. McCartney discussed the status of the student housing project, Phoenix Project. An audit was done earlier in the year to get an estimated amount, which totaled \$84 million to restore the buildings that needed renovations. Some of the costs would come from the students, who were charged an extra \$150.00 more a semester for housing. There was an additional loan of \$18 million taken for the renovations.

- Deaton Hall, built in the 1950's, has been completely renovated. The lounge looks similar to the Peabody Hotel's lounge.
- Hefley Hall will now have new closets in all rooms, 16 more electrical outlets per room, new furniture, and new wiring for computers and television. The one-story lobby was converted to a three-story lobby; which has more study lounges for the students. This will create a healthier environment for the students. It will be completed in June 2002.
- Stewart Hall will have a new bathroom wing and new study lounges. It will also house 50 more students. This work will start in the summer of 2002.
- Guess Hall's lobby will be torn down to become a two-story lounge and more parking spaces will be available for the students.
- Crosby Hall will have some work done on the exterior walls.
- Kinard Hall, as most of you know, is no longer a student dormitory. It now holds Academic Counseling, the WilliePrice Day Care Center, and soon University Police Department and the Counseling Center will also move to that building.
- In the last 2 years, \$2 million have been spent on new beds, furniture, and dressers for the students.

Since the recent increase of student enrollment, Housing has been placing some students in other housing temporarily. Starting January 2003, Northgate Apartments will be managed by Student Housing. The apartments will be turned into housing for upperclass students. Currently, Northgate is housing for faculty and staff. The Physical Plant Department will notify occupants living in the Northgate Apartments in the near future of the change.

- There will be some modifications to the apartments.
- Apartments will be converted to suite style living for the students.

These apartments, when reconfigured, will be able to house 200 to 250 students.

- There is also a proposal to make the Northgate Street one-way and to angle the parking to make more space for students' cars.
- Mark Shows suggested that Housing give an extra day to those graduating students at commencement. Most students graduating have to move out the day of graduation and would like to have more time. The answer was no since the staff and employees do not work that day. The cost of operations does not justify the number of students who wish to stay an extra day. Mr. McCartney said that he would look into keeping one of the buildings opened as a hotel for those students who need an extension. Another reason why the buildings close is because the time for clean-up is limited to 20 days before the buildings are used again.

Everyone was reminded that Housing will be opened for students on January 3, 2002.

President Buddy Kahler thanked Mr. McCartney for his comments.

## **MINUTES:**

There was a correction in the printed minutes for November. The Breakfast Exam will be hosted by Aramark and will be served by the Staff Council. Approval for November minutes was approved unanimously.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Appreciation goes out to all who contributed to the collection of eyeglasses. If you have not contributed and would still like to, please send them by campus mail to Buddy Kahler in the PPD.
- Buddy Kahler and Tony Seaman were invited along with all the other MS public universities (2 and 4 year) to attend a meeting hosted by Governor Ronnie Musgrove. This was to explain the budget proposed by the Legislators and to present his plan for public employee's health insurance.
- Please send all Book Scholarship forms to Melissa Hudson, J. D. Williams, Government Information Services or email to [mhudson@olemiss.edu](mailto:mhudson@olemiss.edu).
- As most of you know, the Humane Society here in Oxford was vandalized. If you would like to give donations to the Humane Society please send to Jacqueline Wohlwend-Ballard, 104 Martindale, Rm. 105. Thank you for your support.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- The Financial Report was approved unanimously.
- Joni Camp wanted to thank everyone who gave to United Way and for those who supported UPD Bike-A-Thon.
- Joni Camp also wanted to give special thanks to Julie Klepzig for the designing of the Breakfast Exam fliers. Also, to let everyone know that Santa Claus and Tony the Tiger will be at Johnson Commons December 11 from 9 pm - 11 pm.

## **CONCERNS:**

- One question brought up by a staff member was why the faculty employees accrue more personal and sick leave

than staff employees. Tony Seaman was informed those 9 month faculty accumulate only sick leave at the rate of 15 days per year and get NO personal leave. 12-month faculty accumulates at EXACTLY the same rate 12 month staff do.

- A staff member asked if the Administration was approached to make EEO4 category pay increase retroactive from July 1or if it was ever considered by the administration. The answer was no in both cases.
- Another concern was that there seemed to be no formal grievance provision for staff members. The answer is yes; it is in the Staff handbook section VII.0006 of the "Handbook for Faculty and Staff".
- Some staff members were uncomfortable donating only to the United Way. However, the Council was informed that United Way sponsors 17 other charities. The donor has an option to decide which group or groups will receive their donations.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- There was no meeting for the Standing Committees for Technology or other committees.

Meeting was adjourned.

/s/Buddy Kahler, President

/s/Tony Seaman, President-Elect

/s/Amanda Wood, Secretary

Staff Council e-mail address: [staffcouncil@olemiss.edu](mailto:staffcouncil@olemiss.edu)

Staff Council Homepage: [http://www.olemiss.edu/orgs/staff\\_council/](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](mailto:Majordomo@listserv.olemiss.edu) with the words "*subscribe staff*" in the body of the e-mail message.