

Minutes of December 1, 1999 meeting

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



Attending:

Julie Andrews, Woodson Boyden, Betty Brown, Dennis Bullard, Joni Camp, Onice Carter, Mary Chrestman, Buster Clark, Thelma Curry, Cherry Douglas, Shirley Fisher, Laura Gillom, Mary Harrington, Willie Hilliard, Floyd Klepzig, Theresa Knight, Denise Knighton, Jonnie Manning, Lynn Mills, Traci Mitchell, Jerry Moore, Conny Parham, Donna Patton, Lamar Pickens, Lucienne Savell, Sherry Wall, Larry Weeden, Martha Woolfolk

Excused:

Judy Fos, Clay Jones, Buddy Kahler, Barbara Smith

Unexcused:

Robert Bishop, Etta Miller, Cassandra Pinson, Kirk Purdom, Michael Vanderlip

President Traci Mitchell called the meeting to order. The minutes of November 3, 1999, were approved as submitted.

Project Discover Update

Buster Clark advised that by November 30 all employees should have received a letter showing **estimated** pay for January 15 and January 31 paychecks and the transitional assistance payment. Anyone with questions should contact Larry Sparks or Buster Clark. Employees must notify the Payroll Office if they DO NOT want the transitional assistance payment in their January 15 paycheck. Notification can be done in person or through e-mail to Al Fenger at fofenger@olemiss.edu.

No decisions will be made about additional departments going on line with SAP until after January 1, when implementation of the project can be assessed and any problems worked out.

Insurance Update

Clay Jones attended a meeting in Jackson of the State Insurance Board this morning, and he had hoped to return in time to give the Council a report, but he was unable to do so. AHS was on the agenda for the meeting.

At the November meeting, the Council voted to mail letters to AHS and the North Mississippi Physicians Association to express our concern about the health insurance situation. Traci passed around copies of the letters which have been mailed. There has been a great deal of publicity about the insurance issue, including articles in the *Clarion Ledger*, *Commercial Appeal*, and *Oxford Eagle*. Traci advised that a journalism class has been assigned to write a feature story about this topic for the *Daily Mississippian*. She will advise the Council if there are any changes/progress in this area.

Announcements

- MASCO held their November 11 meeting on the Ole Miss Campus. Traci reported that the meeting went well, but that because there were three schools not represented, they were unable to finalize the two resolutions which had been submitted by USM and approved by our Council concerning portability of tuition benefits and restoration of full tuition for dependents of all faculty/staff. These proposals were tabled until the next meeting, which is scheduled for January.
- Firing Line--The last program will be filmed at the University on Friday, December 3. Volunteer ushers should

report to the Coliseum at 6:45 p.m. for the 8:00 p.m. debate and are invited to remain for the debate and the reception following.

- December 8 Exam Breakfast--Volunteers should report to Johnson Commons Cafeteria at 8:30 p.m. for the breakfast which is to be held from 9-11 p.m. Traci handed out flyers advertising the breakfast, which will cost \$2 for all-you-can-eat, and asked SC members to post them in areas frequented by students.
- The Staff Development Proposal has been completed and will be hand-delivered to the Chancellor when he meets with the Executive Committee on December 8.
- The Customer Service Workshops recently held on campus were presented by The Whitten Group. They have provided the University a report with observations and recommendations regarding those workshops.
- Traci announced that 12 departments have adopted a charity organization as part of the suggested Holiday Charitable Event. Anyone else who is interested should contact Traci.
- Traci asked that Council members think about possible guest speakers for the spring semester and give her suggestions.
- Traci announced that a Cessation of Smoking Workshop for UM employees will be held on January 11. Anyone who wants more information should call Traci at 915-5503. She handed out flyers to be posted around campus.

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee: Traci announced that the Executive Committee will meet with Chancellor Khayat on December 8. Items on the agenda include the following:
 - insurance update
 - providing him with copies of letters from Council to AHS and Physicians Group
 - presenting to him the Staff Development Proposal
 - requesting an update on funding for Staff Council Picnic
- Concerns Committee: Since Clay Jones was not available for a report, Traci advised that most recent concerns have been about the health insurance issue. Clay will provide a report in January about any other concerns which have been raised.
- The Publicity Committee was asked to work with Dr. Kellum regarding her request for suggestions and ideas on improving the *Good Things Are Happening at Ole Miss* publication.

Robert Jordan from PR took a group photo of the Council for the display case in the Union, and the meeting was adjourned.

/s/Traci Mitchell, President

/s/Clay Jones, President-Elect

/s/Conny Parham, 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.

