

Minutes of February 6, 2002 meeting

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



PRESENT:

Dennis Bullard, Joni Camp, Nina Cheshier, Shirley Fisher, Earlene Foster, Mary Harrington, Dino Johnson, Regina Jordan, Buddy Kahler, Anne Klingen, Shannon Lovejoy, Conny Parham, Jean Pinion, Hilarie Pryor, Dave Sagaser, Tony Seaman, Karen Tuttle, Rosa Vance, Sherry Wall, Amanda Wood

EXCUSED:

Betty Brown, Shellie Harrison, Melissa Hudson, Sam Johnson, Denise Knighton, Jonnie Manning, Lynn Mills, Jeannette Wells

UNEXCUSED:

Michele Mize, Mark Shows, Doug Stuart

The meeting was called to order at 2:37 p.m. and a new member, Hilarie Pryor from EEO category 5, was welcomed to the Council.

MINUTES:

The January minutes were approved with no corrections.

STAFF TEXTBOOK SCHOLARSHIP:

- The Staff Textbook Scholarship criteria will be reworded to better explain eligibility for qualified staff members.
- The Staff Council will vote at next meeting on whether to increase the income level to \$30,000 a year for the scholarship. This would allow more people to qualify, thanks to Chancellor Khayat's funding of \$10,000 for the fall semester 2002.
- This will be a "first come first serve" basis. New applicants will have priority.
One staff council member asked if the amount of the scholarship could be raised to \$150 for the lower income staff members. The answer was that the agreement is for up to \$100 so that more will be available for more applicants.

MEETING WITH CHANCELLOR:

The Staff Council Executive Committee met with the Chancellor this month. Some of the high points of this meeting were:

- Chancellor Khayat wants to encourage everyone to keep working hard to seek ways to use efficiency and to continue to work together and share a smile. The Admissions personnel have helped to increase student enrollment by 28% over the last 4-5 years. Let's thank them for their hard work and support.
- Benefits in Project Discover are more visible; wages have gone up for almost all EEO categories thanks to Pam Roy, Johnny Williams and Bob Dowdy. They have really worked hard for us, and we should show them our

appreciation.

- The Chancellor has once again approved the Physical Examination program that was so successful last year. The exam will be offered at a reasonable cost to employees. Dates will be announced later. All staff are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to get a physical exam at the Student Health Center.

Thank you Chancellor Khayat for your great leadership and for all the hard work and improvements you have done for this University.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Staff Council Elections Committee - Chair, Mary Harrington announced that the ballots have been sent out for voting and have been received. Out of 1800 staff members, only 38 were willing to have their names placed on the ballots for staff council.
- Staff Council Awards Committee - Chair, Shannon Lovejoy will take over the arranging of preparations for this year with the help of Shirley Fisher, Chair 2001.
 - Staff Appreciation Day this year will be May 17, 2002.
 - The Awards Ceremony will begin at 9:00am at Fulton Chapel.
 - Picnic in the Grove will be from 11:00am - 1:00pm.
 - The Outstanding Staff Members winners will have breakfast with the Chancellor at 7:30am in the Chancellor's dining room on May 20, 2002.

TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

CONCERNS:

- One staff member questioned: What is the policy regarding Nepotism and why is it not enforced?
Nepotism can be defined as favoritism shown by relatives to gain or be appointed to a position just because related and not based on qualifications. There is a policy in "A Handbook for Faculty and Staff" section V.00003: Employment Policies, for those interested in reading up on that policy.
- Another staff member asked how were raises determined for the EEO categories?
The answer is by administrative formula. We would like to acknowledge and thank the administrative committees for their financial management that enabled increasing the compensation base of those categories.
- Parking is an on-going concern. There is no real solution at this time. For those of you who need information on parking, there is a map to show where parking is allowed for staff and students. Card swiping and gated areas were suggestions, however, there are cost factors and other considerations before this could become reality. There are some Universities that are walking campuses now; a shuttle bus is used. However, there is an inconvenience for being a walking campus: Departments such as Physical Plant, Printing, and Mail Services need the use of vehicles to get to buildings for service or delivery.

The Staff Council is looking for two volunteers to fill positions representing EEO category 7. If you are interested, please notify Tony Seaman (5578) or Mary Harrington (5026).

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16pm.

/s/Buddy Kahler, President

/s/Tony Seaman, President-Elect

/s/Amanda Wood, 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.