

The University of Mississippi

Minutes of Meeting February 3, 2010

Staff Council

200 Lyceum

Present: Karinlee Brister, Carol Bullard, Dawn Bullion, Jessica Coker, Tiffany Edwards, Mark Garneau, Alicia Goodson, Shelia Goolsby, Angie Gurner, Shellie Harrison, Marla Holcomb, Chad Hunter, Johnette Taylor Jenkins, MaryAnn Kerr, Natcha Knight-Evans, Elaine Little, Jane Michelletti, Erin Miller, Julius Minor, Stephanie Mitchell, Valerie Moncrief, Patti Mooney, Patricia Oswalt, Johnny Price, Anita Randle, Ryan Upshaw

Absent-Excused: Dotty Baker, Prema Balachandran, Holly Bethune, Debbie Bishop, Lisa Bishop, Mark Camarigg, Stan Fortner, Gwen Hutchins, Paula Park, Neal Sellers, Benita Whitehorn

Absent-Unexcused: Sandra Cox-McCarty, Jacqueline Vinson

Call to order: Johnette called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes: January minutes approved by consensus

Treasurer's Report: January treasurer's report will be emailed by Dotty to approve at the next meeting.

Guest Speaker:

Valeria Ross, Assistant Dean of Students for Multi-Cultural Affairs and Volunteer Services, spoke to Staff Council about volunteerism. The University of Mississippi has been involved in several ways with our community and even our nation thru volunteerism. Staff Council was an active participant in meeting the needs of Officer Robert Langley's family when he was killed in October, 2006. A Christmas party was held for his children and Mrs. Lisa Langley. Staff Council is also active in volunteering to collect goods and distribute baskets to needy families in the community thru Adopt-a Basket. Adopt-a-Basket served almost 300 families last year in 2009. Council members can be depended on to volunteer in all areas of this project including collection of goods, supervising work stations of distribution and then distribution itself. UMSFUSION is a new community service, non-profit project that is being developed by the Dean of Students Office. UMSFUSION is an acronym that stands for **U**niversity of **M**ississippi **S**tudents **F**acilitating **U**nion and **S**ervice **I**nto **O**ur **N**eighborhood. Val asked for Staff Council to guide students who are looking for a way to be involved to call her. She also asked that Staff Council call her with any ideas for community service.

Unfinished Business:

Chancellor Jones discussed with the Executive Board that there would be approximately fifty positions that will be vacated and will remain vacant. There will also be 30-40 positions that are presently filled that will be cut with an incentive for early retirement. The Executive Board of Staff Council would like to suggest to the chancellor having a Spring Campus-Wide Staff Meeting with the Chancellor for updates on this process, possibly in April.

New Business:

- a) Committee Reports –
 - Staff Appreciation Day – will have same programs as in past years. Still working on some of the details for this year's events.
 - Staff Council Newsletter is coming together and the new issue will come out soon.
 - Staff Council Elections – ballots will go out first part of February.
- b) No Standing Committee Reports
- c) Outstanding Staff Member for January is Loretta Thomas, she is a Procurement Assistant who handles all travel arrangements for staff members whose last names start A-L. Loretta was nominated for her hard work she does in assisting staff with their travel arrangements and will be given a certificate and coupon for the Commons for this honor.. She was nominated by Dawn Bullion.
- d) Textbook Scholarships - For Spring semester there were 91 scholarships distributed totaling \$11,097.00
- e) Judicial Council – Scott Wallace would like for the Council to be involved. Presently students have the choice to either meet with Melinda and Scott or to meet with the board. Faculty, staff, and students are represented in this group. Scott would like to have a Staff Council on the board with a term limit of two years or nominate staff members to be involved.
- f) Service Event – Chancellor Jones' Inauguration is being held on April 7, 2010. It will be a service-oriented theme for the inauguration. The Office of information Technology is working on an interface that will list the projects, goals, etc. Volunteers can list what they did, for how long, etc. The site will list large and small events. It will also list global events. Johnette suggested that Staff Council have a project that would benefit the university and be a non-profit service project. Stephanie Mitchell suggested a tutoring program to assist learners who struggle. Julius Minor suggested a life skills task force. Shelia Goolsby suggested combining the life skills task force with a program at the Counseling Center. Elaine Little suggested adding a CPR/First aid component to this program as well. Tiffany Edwards suggested an adult literacy class or GED prep class. Alicia Goodson questioned satellite campus accessibility. Stephanie Mitchell said that video conferencing could be arranged. Ryan Upshaw suggested a mentoring program for students that incorporate Faculty and Staff starting as early as Orientation. Johnette asked the Council if a committee should be formed or have all involved and Stephanie Mitchell moved that everyone could pitch in to make it a tremendous and exciting project that everyone had a part in. Johnette asked Staff Council to think of ideas for the project and meet mid-month to put ideas into a plan of action.

Announcements/Concerns

- a) Staff Council Representative of the Month is Mark Garneau. The council thanks Mark for all his hard work on Staff Council.
- b) Hard workers for January – Johnette recognized some Council members that had worked hard; Carol Bullard for her work on the “Coffee Hour”, and to the Student Relations Committee and volunteers for the “Welcome Back “table that was in the Union.
- c) Debbie Bishop – had surgery and may be in need of donated leave. Johnette is checking to see if she will need donated leave and will advise Staff Council members at a later date

if there is a need. Johnette also wants to ask Human Resources if there is a way to communicate to Staff if there is a need for donation of leave but in the meantime, continue to communicate known needs by “word of mouth”.

- d) Jessica Coker is being deployed and will need to be replaced.
- e) Mark Garneau will take Ron Kitchens place on the Athletics Standing Committee.
- f) Johnette will send out emails regarding dates and times for upcoming meetings regarding the service project.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Next meeting: March 9th at 2:30 p.m., Lyceum 200