

Minutes of June 4, 1997 meeting

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



Present:

Cyndi Baskett, Onice Carter, Mary Chrestman, Buster Clark, Sondra Davis, David Elmore, Mary Harrington, Gene Hartley, Willie Hilliard, Ellawee Ivy, Virginia Kesler, Floyd Klepzig, Jonnie Manning, Joe Maples, Traci Mitchell, Conny Parham, Donna Patton, Lucienne Savell, Steve Stricker, Doug Stuart, Lesley Werner

Excused Absences:

Leslie Banahan, Brenda Brannan, Thelma Curry, David Pendergrass, Norman Sneed, Whitman Smith

Unexcused Absences:

Betty Adams, Julie Andrews, Robert Bishop, Debbie Chinault, Becky Christman, Ben Flemmons, Joyce Hobson

1. The meeting was called to order by President Buster Clark at 2:30 p.m. President Clark began the meeting by thanking all persons who worked so hard to prepare for the Staff Appreciation Week activities. He especially thanked the Staff Council members who showed up at the Grove at 8:00 a.m. on Friday morning to help the Physical Plant set up for the picnic.
2. **Awards Ceremony:** Donna Patton reported that there was a good crowd at this year's awards ceremony. Donna thanked all those who served on her committee this year: Sondra Davis, Brenda Brannan, and Mary Chrestman. All certificates that were not awarded on awards day have been mailed out to the awardees, along with their pins. **NOTE:** During the awards ceremony, several people who were supposed to receive a 5-year pin received a 10-year pin in error. If you are one of these people, please go by or call Donna Patton's office in the Lyceum.
3. **Door Prize Committee:** Traci Mitchell thanked Joe Maples and his staff for their help with the distribution of door prizes this year. We received over 250 prizes from the Oxford Community, and we are very thankful for their support of the staff and the Staff Council.
4. **Events:** Onice Carter thanked her committee members for their work. They were Darla Harris (co-chair), Joyce Hobson, Lucienne Savell, Thelma Curry, Julie Andrews, and Tony Wilson. Onice reported that the tournaments and workshops were well attended. More than 300 staff members participated in the tournaments, and more than 300 participated in the funshops during the week. We would like to thank all of the speakers and everyone that helped coordinate the events. The funshops with the highest attendance were Low Cholesterol and Low Fat Cooking, Landscaping Tips, Skin Care and Glamour, Gardening Tips, and Designing an Exercise Program. Friday's events were also well attended and most events ran smoothly. Onice expressed a special thank to Becky Parker for going to Batesville to pick up a Bingo game. David Elmore followed up by saying that the Union has ordered a Bingo game that we can use next year. The pie throw was a big "hit", thanks to all of those that volunteered to be "targets." The tournament winners are listed below. Their names and pictures will be displayed in the trophy case in the Union until next year's Staff Appreciation Week. The 1996-97 Tournament Winners are:

Basketball	Student Housing. Team members were Willie Joiner, Jesse MacIntosh, David O'Hara, Michael Pegues, Charles Pegues, Michael Price, Marlene Shaw, Kenny Sims, Ike Vaughan
Men's Billiards	Kurt Savage
Women's Billiards	Mary Bishop
Men's Bowling	Rick Thurlow
Women's Bowling	Niler Franklin

Golf	Rusty Crump, Steve Curtis, Al Ling, Falton Mason
Softball	Physical Plant. Team members were Cindy Alderman, Steve Beckham, Keith Edwards, Grey Frye, Phyllis Holmes, Kristy Lawrence, Andy Proa, Betty Ann Robertson, Reed Robinson, Kurt Savage, Norman Sneed, Sandy Stone, Mike Thweatt, Eric Thweatt, Chyna Ward, T. R. Watson, Tony Wilson
Spades	Floyd Brooks, Michael Pegues
Volleyball	Student Housing. Team members were Willie Joiner, Jesse MacIntosh, David O'Hara, Jackie Hudson, Stacie Hutchins, Teresa Isom, Michael Pegues, Charles Pegues, Michael Price, Marlene Shaw, Kenny Sims, Ike Vaughan

The committee will be sending out a survey to see what activities and funshops the staff liked best, what they did not like, and try to get new ideas for next year's Staff Appreciation Week.

5. **Food:** Jonnie Manning thanked her committee members: Becky Christman, Cyndi Baskett, and Willie Hilliard. She apologized for some staff not getting buns. We had 1000, but we still ran out. We had 850 tickets turned in. Once again, we had some problems with picnic tickets being lost and requests coming in at the last minute for a new ticket. We will take this problem under advisement and try to come up with a better solution for next year's picnic.
6. **Outstanding Staff Committee:** Conny Parham reported that there was a definite increase in voter participation during this year's election. The committee was not sure if it was because of those who were nominated, the \$50 incentive, or the timing of the delivery of the information. A total of 394 people voted in this year's election. The Staff Council at this time began a discussion as to whether or not keep the Outstanding Staff Overall category or to eliminate. After much discussion a motion was made by Onice Carter and seconded by Jonnie Manning to add to the Staff Appreciation Week survey a question regarding the Outstanding Staff Award overall category to try to determine if the staff thinks this overall category election should be kept or eliminated. The motion carried.
7. Gene Hartley stated that Staff Appreciation Week is held during budgetary times. Because of this there are quite a number of people who cannot participate during the week. The point was made that this discussion has been held several times in the past, but no better time could be found for Staff Appreciation Week.
8. **Blood Drive:** Lucienne Savell reported that while the goal of 150 pints was not met, we did have a successful blood drive. She thanked the people who served on her committee: Veda Wrenn, Floyd Klepzig, Thelma Curry, Cathi Henry, Jeannette Wells. She also thanked everyone who took the time to help by donating blood, as well as those who worked the blood drive.
9. **Staff Concerns:** Jonnie Manning announced that she received one new concern regarding problems with insurance. She turned this concern over to Mary Harrington, who serves on the University's Insurance and Retirement Committee.
10. President Clark reported that Chancellor Khayat has requested that the Staff Council submit a proposal by July 1 regarding how the staff can help the University recruit and retain students. The committee that was charged with drafting this proposal is Mary Harrington, Onice Carter, David Pendergrass, Whitman Smith, Traci Mitchell, Buster Clark, Mary Chrestman, Eldrid Hodge, Gloria Kellum, Laura Pannell, and Steve Stricker. Some of the highlights of the proposal are:
 - o Establish "greeters" at Paul B. Johnson Commons and the Union cafeteria during the second and third week of school. These staff members would greet students as they come to lunch, offer to refill drinks (PBJ only), and visit with students who are sitting alone.
 - o Place staff "guides" at strategic points around campus from 7:30 to 10 a.m. during the first week of school to help students navigate the campus and answer general questions. These guides would be required to attend a training session so they don't give students poor information.
 - o Encourage staff members to participate in "Move-in Mania" to assist students and parents in moving into the dorms.
 - o Expand the letter writing program which Eldrid Hodge initiated last year for prospective students. Begin a

similar letter writing campaign for transfer students.

- Place signs at the entrances with appropriate messages from the staff. Messages would differ depending upon the time of the year, such as graduation, final exam time, holidays, or beginning of the semester.
- Explore the development of a pamphlet for students with pertinent information such as frequently called numbers and hours of operation.
- Develop a "Hometown Connection" program whereby staff would be paired with out-of-state students who share a hometown.
- Coordinate with Barnes & Noble, Aramark, Coca-Cola Company, and appropriate campus offices to provide a midnight refreshment break during exam week.
- Encourage staff members to participate in existing mentoring programs.
- Ask staff members to go back to their high school and/or junior colleges for college night.
- Begin the process of bench marking with similar institutions regarding customer services practices and systems of recognition.

11. **Firing Line.** The Firing Line TV program will be held on campus in October. Volunteers are needed to serve as ushers.

12. **Other announcements:**

- Casual dress will be until August 15th. Shorts, if worn, are to be knee length and wide leg.
- Move-in-Mania will be August 16th. This program is designed to help freshmen move into their dorms. If you are interested in participating, please contact Housing.
- President Clark expressed his sincere appreciation to Lesley Werner for the shelving that the Staff Council now has in its office in Leavell.
- If anyone knows of a staff person who has had a book, poem, song, short story, or professional paper published, please let Laura Pannell at Public Relations know.
- The Executive Committee and the incoming officers met with Drs. Kellum and Reithel to discuss the next Campaign for Ole Miss. The group has requested that a goal for a career development center for the staff be added. President Clark requested volunteers to help plan the Career Development Center. Those council members who volunteered to serve on this committee are: Cyndi Baskett, Sondra Davis, Gene Hartley, Onice Carter, Traci Mitchell, Buster Clark, Jonnie Manning, Lucienne Savell, and Steve Stricker.
- Joe Maples and his committee has completed a handout on the Staff Council to be distributed to new staff of the University during orientation.

13. President Clark made a few closing remarks since this is his last official meeting as president. President Clark said that it had been an honor and that he had truly enjoyed serving as president of the Staff Council this year. He feels positive that the council has accomplished many goals it set out to accomplish. He feels that the Council will be in good hands as the next Executive Board takes its reign. President Clark concluded by acknowledging all the help that Onice Carter had given him during his term as president.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Lucienne B. Savell, Secretary

/s/Buster Clark, President

/s/Jonnie Manning, President-Elect

The TV program, Firing Line, is again coming to Ole Miss.

When: October 14, 1997

Where: Tad Smith Coliseum

Ushers are needed for this event.

Contact Jonnie Manning at ext. 5021 (or email her at dpjism@olemiss.edu) to volunteer.