The University of Mississippi

Minutes of Meeting, November 3, 2010

Staff Council

Physical Plant Conference Room

Present: Premalatha Balachandran, Jeffrey Boyd, Dawn Bullion, Sandra Cox-McCarty, Tiffany Edwards, Mark Garneau, Alicia Goodson, Shelia Goolsby, Melinda Grimmett, Doug Gurley Angie Gurner, Johnette Jenkins, Mary Ann Kerr, Elaine Little, James McPhail, Julius Minor, Valerie Moncrief, Edward Movitz, Patricia Oswalt, Paula Park, Lori Patton, Johnny Price, Anita Randle, Neal Sellers, Precious Thompson,

Absent-Excused: Debbie Bishop, Karinlee Brister, Ashley Harrell, Natcha Knight-Evans, Stephanie Mitchell, Ryan Upshaw, Benita Whitehorn, Deetra Wiley.

Absent-Unexcused: Carol Bullard, Mark Camarigg, Becky Drewery, Stan Fortner, John Supple, Dorothy Vaughn

Call to Order: President- Elect, Ms. Tiffany Edwards called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Guest Speaker: Wilma Webber-Colbert, Director of Equal Opportunity and Regulatory Compliance on campus was our guest speaker. Wilma mentioned that their office is in the 2nd floor of Martindale. She explained about the importance of mandatory training offered to all our employees. They also offer individual training sessions when the need arises. They accept complaints from students, Faculty and staff and also from anyone who interact with the university. She also mentioned that we have fairly comfortable environment across the campus. Their office receives maximum of just 10 complaints in a year. Majority of them are either about sexual harassment or disability related. In addition to handling these complaints, their office also provide disability accommodation and handicap parking services. Students approach Student disability services and employees contact their supervisor for their individual needs.

Roll call: Recorded by Premalatha Balachandran.

Minutes: The October minutes were approved by consensus. The minutes were sent out via email and any comments/questions/or changes should be emailed to Premalatha Balachandran.

Treasurer's Report: The October treasurer's report was approved by consensus. The treasurer's report was sent out via email and any comments/questions/or changes should be emailed to Patricia Oswalt.

Old Business:

COMPASS: Anita Randle and Sandra Cox-McCarty reported about the recent COMPASS mentor training session. Mentors were provided with the handbooks and training session had a good response. In addition to Staff council members, one more staff also attended this training. Tiffany thanked and appreciated the great efforts of the COMPASS committee.

SC has partnered with ASB regarding the issue of Texting and Driving on campus and in the surrounding areas. Ryan met with ASB director of student services. SC may be involved during next semester and can offer our suggestions and opinions to raise awareness among students.

The Student Relations Committee reported about their recent Pizza Walk program. The response from the students was good.

New Business:

The Staff Council officers met with the Chancellor. Chancellor Jones is very supportive of the efforts of the Staff Council. The Chancellor intends to follow the same pattern as last year about the Thanksgiving meal and also about the early university closing after this meal.

Exam Breakfast: Student Relations committee will organize Exam Breakfast on December 7th between 8.30 and 10.30pm. Volunteers were asked to sign up. Paula Park mentioned about drawing door prizes during Exam break fast and they are requesting campus departments for donations/prizes.

United Way Campaign – kicked off and will continue thru 12/3. Johnette explained the details and our goal for this year. She also encouraged Staff Council to attend the events and to donate their "Fair Share". "Fair Share" is one hour of the employee's salary and is made in two installments per month. There will be road blocks set up on Nov 5th between 10 am-1 pm at 3 locations in campus to give donations. Volunteers were asked to sign up for one of these time slots. December 3rd will be the annual breakfast. It will be served in the Union and will cost \$5 per person. More information on the events for the 2010 United Way Campaign can be found at http://www.olemiss.edu/info/unitedway/.

Adopt –a – Basket program: Johnette also detailed about the Adopt-a-Basket program which will be held again this year. The list of needs and other details will be posted in OMT. The cost of each basket would be around \$60. The baskets will be collected between Nov 15th to Nov 18th, 10am. She also suggested that Staff Council may collect ~2 boxes as last year. Patricia agreed to coordinate once again this year.

Christmas basket Project: Tiffany and Melinda co-chair this program. Tiffany explained the details. Melinda added that the campus families would be given first preference. If more funds available then it will be given to the community. Lori, Dawn and Paula agreed to offer their help for this program.

Books and Bears Program: Sandra mentioned that she would start working for this program after thanksgiving holidays.

Outstanding Staff Member of the month: Precious Thompson nominated Lonnie Wayne Weaver, for Outstanding Staff Member for October. Lonnie is an Assistant Director of Maintenance

Services at our Physical Plant office. Precious says that Lonnie is always very helpful. Lonnie will be presented with a certificate of appreciation.

Staff council representative for October: Since 2 representatives were awarded as Our Staff Council Representatives during last month, we will not have anyone for October.

Tiffany once again brought up the matter of Staff Council absenteeism policy. Email will be sent to those who missed 2 meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:28 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 8th, 2010.

Minutes recorded by Premalatha Balachandran.