

Present: Jeffrey Boyd, Carol Bullard, Mark Camarigg, Sandra Cox-McCarty, Becky Drewery, Tiffany Edwards, Mark Garneau, Alicia Goodson, Shelia Goolsby, Melinda Grimmatt, Angie Gurner, Johnette Jenkins, Mary Ann Kerr, James McPhail, Julius Minor, Stephanie Mitchell, Edward Movitz, Patricia Oswald, Paula Park, Lori Patton, Johnny Price, Anita Randle, Neal Sellers, Precious Thompson, Ryan Upshaw, Dorothy Vaughn, Benita Whitehorn, Deetra Wiley.

Absent-Excused: Prema Balachandran, Debbie Bishop, Ashley Harrell, Natcha Knight-Evans, Elaine Little, Valerie Moncrief, John Supple

Absent-Unexcused: Karinlee Brister, Doug Gurley

Call to Order: President Ryan Upshaw called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Guest Speaker: Pam Johnson, Assistant Director of Benefits and Compensation at the Human Resources Department on campus, was our guest speaker. Pam explained many of the upcoming changes to the State Employees Health and Insurance Benefits as well as to Flex Spending Accounts. She answered several questions asked by Staff Council members and stressed that staff members should attend Open Enrollment to be held October 12 through 15 to find out as much information as possible about changes to benefits and to make any applicable changes to their information. She stressed that Open Enrollment will be the only time to make changes to individual information but that there will be a special period for cancellations in November and December due to the time frame regarding the changes to the state health insurance.

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

Treasurer's Report: The September 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 Oswald.

Old Business:

COMPASS Program: Stephanie Mitchell announced that there will be a mentor training session on October 27th. She also announced that there will be a meeting early next week for anyone interested in helping with the COMPASS program. Comments, feedback, and suggestions are welcome.

The Executive Staff Council Board met with the Chancellor. Chancellor Jones is very supportive of the efforts of the Staff Council. The changes to the state employee health insurance were discussed with Dr. Jones asking that Staff Council members educate their fellow employees that these changes are a state issue and not a University issue and to also ask our fellow staff members to take advantage of the many wellness benefits associated with our health insurance.

The Student Relations Committee met recently and have decided to have Pizza Walk for the students. It will be held the Tuesday before the Homecoming football game.

The United Way Campaign will be coming up soon. Ryan Upshaw and Johnette Jenkins are on the United Way Committee and will give us updates as to how Staff Council can be involved with this project.

New Business:

Stephanie Mitchell nominated Darcy Colley Davis for Outstanding Staff Member for October. Darcy is an Administrative Assistant at the Student Media Center. Stephanie says that Darcy is always there and manages the office with a cheerful and helpful attitude. Darcy will be presented with a certificate of appreciation.

Our Staff Council Representatives for the month are Stephanie Mitchell, Anita Randle, and Sandra Cox-McCarty for their hard work on the COMPASS program.

The issue of Texting and Driving on campus and in the surrounding area has been brought to the attention of Staff Council. Ryan contacted Virginia Burke about the possibility of brainstorming with the ASB as to what can be done to bring this matter to the attention of the students.

Ryan brought up the matter of Staff Council absenteeism. He stated that missing more than two meetings in a row or six meetings in an academic year may be grounds for dismissal. Those absences are excused or unexcused. He wanted all members to be aware of this policy.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 3rd.