

The University of Mississippi

Minutes of Meeting October 7, 2009

Staff Council

PPD Conference Room

Present: Dotty Baker, Prema Balachandran, Debbie Bishop, Lisa Bishop, Holly Bethune, Sandra Cox-McCarty, Tiffany Edwards, Stan Fortner, Mark Garneau, Angie Gurner, Shellie Harrison, Chad Hunter, Gwen Hutchins, MaryAnn Kerr, Natcha Knight-Evans, Jane Michelletti, Stephanie Mitchell, Patti Mooney, Patricia Oswalt, Paula Park, Johnny Price, Anita Randle, Dana Ros, Neal Sellers, Johnette Taylor, Ryan Upshaw, Jacqueline Vinson, Benita Whitehorn, Sheila Goolsby

Absent-Excused: Carol Bullard, Marla Holcomb, Erin Miller, Julius Minor

Absent-Unexcused:

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

Guest Speaker: William P. Andrews, Director of University Museums and Historic Houses spoke to the Staff Council about hopes to improve the museum. A new Membership Party will be held at the Chancellor's home on Tuesday, October 20, 6-8 p.m.

Roll call and Introduction of new Staff Council representative: Elaine Little was introduced as our newest Staff Council member. She will be replacing Pam Wilburn who had to step down due to medical reasons. Our prayers are with Pam.

Minutes: September minutes approved by consensus

Treasurer's Report: September treasurer's report approved by consensus

Unfinished Business:

Staff Council shirts – unanimous approval of look and design of the shirt

New Business:

- a) The Executive Board met with the Chancellor. The following was discussed and a letter will be sent out from the Chancellor informing the staff of the discussions.
 - Desire to increase enrollment with current resources
 - Sincerely hopeful of no job cuts
 - Possible restructure, staff might be moved around to cut down on job losses if cuts are necessary
 - We need to work to maintain the image of being the hardest working university in the state
 - Unable to make changes to state benefits

- Cannot make changes to Parking as it would take away revenue from school that is desperately needed
 - Cannot close for spring break. The University would only save money if everyone took week without pay.
 - We are in a three year recession and the University faces eventual budget cuts totaling \$20 million
 - Desire to keep lines of communication open between the staff and Chancellor
- b) Fundraising Committee Report – The committee met to discuss fundraising and it was decided to keep the Adopt a Basket program and car wash. Other ways we could raise money that were discussed were the possibility of an ice cream social, raffle, silent auction, and participation in local charities
- c) Website Development – The executive board met with Stephanie Mitchell on the progress of updating the website. The following was discussed:
- Stephanie asked that the Staff Council check the site for accuracy. The new site will be available soon
 - A survey for communication from staff to Staff Council will be added to the site
 - Site will reflect a current featured department or staff member
- d) Standing Committee Reports – Benita Whitehorn, who serves on the Sensitivity and Respect Standing Committee, has asked that anyone report staff who are possibly rude to student because of race or sex.
- e) United Way Campaign – The goal for this year was raised to \$130,000. This money stays in Lafayette County.
- f) New group picture of Staff Council is going to be taken at the November meeting.
- g) Shelia Goolsby announced the Oxford Alzheimer’s Memory Walk will be held on October 31, 2009. It is Oxford’s first annual Memory Walk. It will be from the Lyceum to the Museum.
- h) Outstanding Staff Member for September – the outstanding staff member for September is Robert Sisk, he is on the janitorial staff in Martindale and he will be given a certificate for this honor.

Announcements/Concerns:

- a) Staff Council Representative of the Month is Benita Whitehorn.
- b) Hard Workers in September – Stephanie Mitchell was thanked for her hard work on the website

- c) Benita Whitehorn, Chair of the Recycling Committee mentioned that we can save money and energy if computers are turned off overnight.
- d) Coca-Cola has donated \$1,000 to textbook scholarship through Contractual Services
- e) Committee Chairs need to remain after meeting
- f) Daniel Nelson Memorial Fund – we raised \$7,964. \$5,145 paid for balance on funeral and marker. The remainder will go to help with medical expenses.
- g) November speaker – will be a representative of Human Resources

Meeting Adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2009, Physical Plant Conference Room