Murray State University Staff Congress
Draft Minutes for June 13, 2007
Curris Center: Mississippi Room

PRESENT: Cathy Bazar, Kelly Buffington, Terry Burgess, Christian Cruce, Kim Griffio, Marion Hale, Orville Herndon, Wade Herndon, Lana Jennings, Jerry O’Bryan, Debbie Plummer, Rhonda Rogers, Phil Schooley, Mark Shearer, Steve Thomas, and Lisa Willis. Guests: Becky Watts, Deputy to the President, and Gina Winchester, Staff Regent.

CALL TO ORDER: Staff Congress President Terry Burgess called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:
Becky Watts, Deputy to the President, reported that Dr. Dunn is in China and Korea visiting MSU’s partner universities. Information Systems and Facilities Management are working on campus-wide emergency procedures. Dr. Dunn is exploring opportunities for the university to fulfill outreach in the local community. Dr. Dunn has ruled that Eric King will be the SGA president for the 2007-08 academic year. Eric will be appointed to the position at a special-called Board of Regents meeting. The Board of Regents summer retreat is set for July 14.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Corrections to the May meeting minutes: Mark Shearer was listed as present, but he did not attend the May meeting. Wade Herndon’s name was omitted from the list of those present at the May meeting. Under Approval of Minutes, in the April Meeting Minutes paragraph, last sentence, Gina Winchester was incorrectly listed as having seconded the minutes. In the Personnel Policies/Benefits Committee report, first sentence, “leave” was misspelled as “leaf”. Orville Herndon made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes as corrected. Tracy Roberts seconded, and the motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT:
Treasurer Marion Hale presented the May Treasurer’s Report. Orville Herndon made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Debbie Plummer seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Executive Committee Report: President Terry Burgess distributed and explained a schedule for the reading and approval of changes to the Staff Constitution and Bylaws. The Executive Committee met June 6 to discuss Staff Congress elections. The committee has nothing to present at this time.

Personnel Policies/Benefits Committee: No report.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Committee Chair Orville Herndon reviewed the requirements for the 2007-2008 Staff Congress executive positions of Treasurer, Vice President, and President. He read the list of candidates whose names had been submitted prior to the meeting: candidate for Treasurer: Marion Hale; candidates for Vice President: Debbie Plummer and Kim Griffio; candidate for President: Terry Burgess. Orville asked for additional nominations. There were none. Staff Congress members present voted for the Executive Officers via paper ballot. Orville Herndon and Phil Schooley counted the ballots. Orville announced the results: Treasurer: Marion Hale; Vice President: Kim Griffio; President: Terry Burgess.

Orville announced that Rick Pierceall has resigned from Staff Congress, leaving an open position in the Facilities Management category. As a result, Mark Shearer’s term will begin today. Virgil Boyd has resigned from his Murray State position, and thereby from Staff Congress. Other Staff Congress positions also remain open. Interested persons should contact Orville. The Credentials and Elections Committee will be discussing procedures for Staff Regent elections.

Staff Recognition Committee: Rhonda Rogers said that the Staff Recognition Luncheon will be held on August 14. The Staff Recognition Committee met with Tom Denton about two weeks ago to discuss the Quarterly Staff Recognition Award (AI# 0607-016). He said that the award will need to be in recognition of good deeds. The committee will meet with Mr. Denton again on June 26.

Staff Special Events Committee: Christian Cruce reported that ten people attended the June staff outing at Backyard Burgers which raised $7.40 in rebates. She distributed two proposed schedules for staff social meals for July through November. Debbie Plummer made a motion to follow schedule A. Marion Hale seconded the motion. President Terry Burgess asked if there was any discussion, and there was none. The motion carried.
Christian said that arrangements could not be made for an MSU staff day with the St. Louis Cardinals (AI# 0607-027) for this year. She will research the possibility of arranging group tickets for a minor league baseball game at Marion, Illinois or Jackson, Tennessee.

**Communications Committee:** Committee Chair Lana Jennings said that the communications committee plans to send out the next newsletter during the first week of August. The newsletter will include an announcement for the Staff Recognition Luncheon.

**Working Conditions Committee:** No report.

**AD-HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Salary and Benefits Equity Research Committee:** Committee Chair Debbie Plummer said the university budget containing funds for salary and benefits equity research has been passed. Debbie will ask Joyce Gordon when bids will be sent out for firms to research the salaries and benefits.

**UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:**

**Parking and Transportation Group:** Group member Phil Schooley reported that the parking and transportation group met on May 17. Meetings will resume in the fall semester. He distributed a draft of a survey regarding on-campus parking. This summer, Peggy Pitman-Munke will lead a group of students in the development of a pilot survey on parking and transportation. The final survey will be distributed campus-wide via email and on the MSU website. It will also be available to the community.

**Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee:** No report.

**Intercollegiate Athletic Council:** No report.

**Naming Campus Facilities Committee:** No report.

**Judicial Board:** No report.

**Sick Leave Appeals Committee:** No report.

**Staff Regent Report:** Staff Regent Gina Winchester summarized the May 18 Board of Regents meeting. She will post the summary on the Staff Congress website. She read the list of topics to be discussed at the July 14 Board of Regents retreat. The Board of Regents will form a task force to discuss tuition and housing rates. Gina noted that she is on the NCAA athletic recertification committee.

**OLD BUSINESS:**
Changes to Staff Congress Constitution and Bylaws (AI# 0607-001): Staff Congress President Terry Burgess distributed and reviewed proposed changes to the Staff Congress Constitution. He asked for a motion to approve the changes to the Constitution upon the first reading. Debbie Plummer made a motion to approve changes to the Constitution upon the first reading. Jerry O’Bryan seconded the motion. In a hand vote, the motion carried with 16 votes in favor of the changes, and no votes opposed to the changes.

Smoke–free Policy Resolution (AI# 0607-026): Sheri Riddle made a motion to form an ad-hoc committee whose purpose would be to compose a statement which would request that the university administration consider implementing a smoke-free policy. Rhonda Rogers seconded, and the motion carried. Terry Burgess asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. Cathy Bazar, Rhonda Rogers, and Debbie Plummer volunteered for the committee. Terry appointed Rhonda Rogers as committee chair.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**Adjourn:** Marion Hale made a motion to adjourn. Orville seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.