

Murray State University Staff Congress
Draft Minutes for March 12, 2008
Curris Center: Mississippi Room
Updated April 8, 2008

PRESENT: Cathy Bazar, Michael Buckman, Terry Burgess, Michael Busby, Kim Griffo, Marion Hale, Orville Herndon, Lana Jennings, Tresa Jones, Jane Page, Debbie Plummer, Sheri Riddle, Phil Schooley, and Lisa Willis. Guests: Carmen Garland, Special Assistant to Dr. Robertson, Vice President of Student Affairs and Retention; Becky Watts, Deputy to the President; Gina Winchester, Staff Regent, and Holly Wise, Murray Ledger and Times.

CALL TO ORDER: President Terry Burgess called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:

Becky Watts, Deputy to the President, said that Dr. Dunn was unable to attend today's meeting. He was out-of-town, attending the funeral of Tom Denton's father in Arkansas. She said that the Kentucky House has moved on some items in the budget and the state Senate would like to take time to discuss those items. She gave an update on the university budget.

Carmen Garland, Special Assistant to Dr. Robertson, Vice President of Student Affairs and Retention, wished everyone a safe spring break.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Orville Herndon noted a correction to be made on page 2, under University-Wide Committees, in the Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee report. In the second paragraph, the first sentence should read as follows: "Orville Herndon made a motion to send the interim policy and office skills assessment recommendations to Joyce Gordon of Human Resources and Tom Denton of Finance and Administrative Services." Debbie Plummer made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Lana Jennings seconded, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Marion Hale presented the Treasurer's Report. Lana Jennings made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Kim Griffo seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee Report: President Terry Burgess presented a copy of the resolution regarding budget cuts which was sent to legislative representatives in Frankfort from MSU's Staff Congress and staff representative groups at other Kentucky universities. It was signed by Terry Burgess and Staff Regent Gina Winchester. On February 27, Gina Winchester and Terry Burgess met with Dr. Dunn, Becky Watts, Tom Denton, and Joyce Gordon regarding the hourly staff salary and benefits equity study. Terry gave an update on the status of the study. The study will be moved to the first quarter of 2009, after ERP has been implemented so that Teri Ray of Human Resources will be available to provide needed data to the organization which will conduct the study.

Personnel Policies/Benefits Committee: No report.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Committee Chair Orville Herndon distributed draft copies of the candidacy form for Staff Congress elections. He read the names of those whose terms will expire June 30, 2008.

Staff Recognition Committee: No report.

Staff Special Events Committee: No report.

Communications Committee: Chair Lana Jennings reported that a Staff Congress newsletter is currently in development.

Working Conditions Committee: No report.

AD-HOC COMMITTEES:

Salary and Benefits Equity Research Committee: No report.

Parking and Transportation Group: No report.

AD-HOC COMMITTEES:

Staff Congress Foundation Book Scholarship Committee: Kim Griffo reported that the MSU on-line giving link on the MSU home page allows individuals to donate to the staff book scholarship.

Staff Excellence Award Changes Committee: Debbie Plummer distributed draft copies of the revised Staff Excellence Award nomination form. Revisions were suggested.

Staff Congress Bylaws Review Committee: Chair Orville Herndon reported that the committee has begun meeting to discuss revisions which will later be presented to Staff Congress.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:

Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee: Terry Burgess reported that the committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, March 14.

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 reported that the Board of Regents met on February 29. She presented a summary of the meeting. The changes to the Staff Congress Constitution were approved. Gina said that on-campus information sessions will be conducted via Elluminate. The first one is scheduled for March 13, at noon. The link will be available on Racer Net at <http://campus.murraystate.edu>.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Orville Herndon said that a staff member reported that some dogs approached her and one jumped on her. A request has been made to address the issue of stray dogs on campus. Terry Burgess responded that he would discuss the issue with Public Safety.

Adjournment: Debbie Plummer made a motion to adjourn. Michael Buckman seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.