Murray State University Staff Congress
Draft Minutes for March 10, 2010
Pogue Library: Breathitt Room
April 10, 2010

PRESENT: Vicki D. Anderson, Terri Benton, S.G. Carthell, Christian Cruce, Laura Dziekonski, Orville Herndon, Lana Jennings, Norma Sue Miller, Jerry O’Bryan, Chuck Plummer, Debbie Plummer, Sheri Riddle, Becky Wilder, Lisa Willis, Gina Winchester, Janeen Winters, and John Young. Guests: Josh Jacobs, Chief of Staff; Linda Miller, Chief Information Officer; Phil Schooley, Staff Regent.

CALL TO ORDER: Staff Congress President Christian Cruce starting the meeting without a quorum at 1:31 p.m.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:
Linda Miller said that approval has been given to move to an email server. She explained the reasons for the proposed move to Google, including age, capacity, and lack of backup ability on the MSU server. She elaborated on Google’s features as well as its experience and favorable reputation in providing email services for colleges, universities, and P-12 schools. She asked for questions and feedback from staff.

Josh Jacobs said the first of three Provost job candidates would arrive on campus later this evening. Employees should have received an email about the candidates’ visits scheduled for March 11, 15, and 17. He described the events scheduled for each candidate’s visit, including the open forums to be held from 3:00-4:30 p.m., in Freed Curd Auditorium on each of those dates. Additional information about the Provost job candidates is available via a link on the MSU homepage. Sheri Riddle and Lana Jennings are on the search committee which narrowed the list of 45 viable applicants down to three. As members of the Staff Leadership Council, Staff Congress President Christian Cruce and Staff Regent Phil Schooley will have a meal with each of the candidates. On Sunday, March 14, at 3:30 p.m., at the RSEC, a rally will be held for the MSU basketball team as the team members wait to learn whom they will play in the NCAA Tournament.

QUORUM: A quorum was reached. Staff Congress President Christian Cruce called the meeting to order at 2:27.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES: Debbie Plummer made a motion to approve the February minutes as presented. John Young seconded, and the motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Debbie Plummer presented the February Treasurer’s Report. John Young made a motion to approve the February Treasurer’s Report. Gina Winchester seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Executive Committee: Christian Cruce reported that committee met last month with the Faculty Senate President. The committee will meet again on March 11.

Personnel Policies Committee: No report.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Orville Herndon distributed a sample copy of the Candidacy Intent Form for the Staff Congress Elections to be held on April 30. He asked that he be notified of any corrections to be made. The forms will be printed on March 16 or 17, and mailed on March 18. He read the names of Staff Congress members whose terms will expire this year:

Staff Recognition Committee: Terri Benton said the Staff Recognition Lunch is scheduled for August 10. Later in today’s meeting, this date was corrected to August 5. Phil Schooley drew winners from Way to Go nominations received during the final quarter of 2009. The following names were drawn: General Category--Anita Ross, Food Services; Secretarial/Clerical Category--Karon Johnson, Copy Express; Executive/Managerial Category--Susan Darnall, Athletics. The winners will be invited to the April Staff Congress meeting to receive their awards and gift certificates. Also during the April meeting, winners will be drawn from the Way to Go nominations received during the first quarter of 2010.

Staff Special Events Committee: No report.

Communications Committee: Lana Jennings said the newsletter and Staff Congress Election Candidacy Intent Form will be mailed together on March 18. Ideas for newsletter items were discussed.

Working Conditions Committee: No Report.

AD-HOC COMMITTEES:
Salary and Benefits Equity Research Committee: No report.

Staff Congress Foundation Book Scholarship Committee: Christian Cruce announced the book scholarship winners: Angela Darnall of Student Affairs is the employee recipient and Matthew Todd in the spouse/dependent recipient. Rhonda Rogers’ son Kyle has been awarded the book scholarship made available by the one-time anonymous additional donation.

Staff Handbook Review Committee: No report.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:
Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee: Orville Herndon said the committee will meet Friday, March 12. Buying sick days is a current topic of discussion for the committee.

Intercollegiate Athletic Council: No report.

Naming Campus Facilities: No report.

Judicial Board: No report.

Sick Leave Appeals Committee: No report.

Staff Regent Report: Staff Regent Phil Schooley distributed a summary of the Board of Regents meeting held on February 19. The date of a special meeting to set tuition has yet to be determined. The next regular Board of Regents meeting will be held in May. The job audit report should be ready on March 24. Phil asked that staff inform him, Lana Jennings, Christian Cruce, or Sheri Riddle of any concerns or questions to ask the Provost job candidates. Vicky Travis and Alice Stout will be rotating off the Board of Regents. A third opening exists on the Board of Regents due to the resignation of Dr. Laxmaiah Manchikanti.

OLD BUSINESS: Several Staff Congress members reported positive experiences with services received at Health Services. Gina Winchester made a motion to write a letter to Tom Denton requesting that the Physician’ assistant position at Health Services become a permanently-funded position. Laura Dziekonski seconded and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:
Sheri Riddle asked if spring break for staff will be extended by two days. Phil Schooley answered that the break will not be extended this year, but extension of future spring breaks is under discussion.

Gina Winchester announced that on March 15, 3:00-7:00 p.m., the Extreme Entrepreneurial Fair will be held in the Curris Center. No pre-registration is required. March 27 is the date of the 75th Make a Difference Day at Roy Stewart Stadium which will be accepting books for recycling. Books in good shape will be sent to BetterWorldBooks.com in Atlanta, which will pay MSU for them. A list of acceptable books is available at BetterWorldBooks.com. Extremely damaged books will be recycled.

John Young announced that on April 8, the Patterns of Distinction Security Matters event will be held all day in the Curris Center. There is no charge for the TSM awards luncheon to be held that day. Registration may be completed on-line at PODSecurityMatters.com.

ADJOURNMENT: Orville Herndon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Debbie Plummer seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.