

PRESENT: Terri Benton, Shanna Burgess, Tami Dandeneau, Jessica Evans, Marion Hale, Orville Herndon, Dana Howard, Lana Jennings, Laura Lohr-Dziekonski, Ann Matheny, Margie Miller, Jerry O'Bryan, Chuck Plummer, Debbie Plummer, Tressa Ross, Daniel Williams, Dwaine Willoughby, Gina Winchester, Janeen Winters, and John Young.

Guests: Dr. Randy Dunn, President; Dr. Renee Fister, Faculty Regent; Debbie Griffin, Staff Congress member-elect; Dr. Bonnie Higginson, Provost; Tom Hoffacker, Director, Human Resources; and Dr. Josh Jacobs, Chief of Staff, Office of the President; Dr. Don Robertson, Vice-President for Student Affairs; Drew Perry, Staff Congress member-elect; Brian Purcell, Staff Congress member-elect; Phil Schooley, Staff Regent; and Lisa Winchester, Staff Congress member-elect.

CALL TO ORDER: Staff Congress President John Young called the meeting to order.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:

Dr. Randy Dunn, President: Dr. Dunn thanked Staff Congress, noting that it was the first group to support him after the March vote on his contract by the Board of Regents. He appreciates the work that has been done by Staff Congress and said he has had good relationships with members of the group. He invited everyone to attend the reception Friday at Oakhurst. His last regular day at MSU will be June 25.

Dr. Bonnie Higginson, Provost: Dr. Higginson said she is completing her 33rd year at MSU and is retiring. She has had many good opportunities at the university and complimented the staff. She will be teaching part-time in the College of Education.

Dr. Don Robertson, Vice-President for Student Affairs: Dr. Robertson said that his office has relocated from Ordway Hall to 425 Wells Hall. He complimented Facilities Management for renovating the Wells Hall office space for his department. His office is currently contacting students who have not registered to return for the fall semester. He reported on summer campus activities for high school students and Summer Orientation sessions for incoming university students. He added that many of the visiting high school students return as MSU students, in part because of the positive experiences they have during the summer programs. Dr. Robertson provided updates on campus renovations.

Tom Hoffacker, Director, Human Resources: Tom Hoffacker said that the university has changed life insurance providers which will result in lower premiums for those currently enrolled in the insurance. He provided additional information about the life insurance. He answered questions.

Dr. Josh Jacobs, Chief of Staff, Office of the President: Dr. Jacobs reported on items from the recent Board of Regents meeting, including the pay increases, organizational structure, and appointments of Provost, Vice-President of Finance and Administrative Services, and interim university President. He answered questions.

John Young announced that the staff representative on the Presidential Search Committee has been invited to attend our meetings when she has updates for the Congress.

Staff Regent Report: Staff Regent Phil Schooley distributed copies of his report and elaborated on some of the items. He explained the potential for a .5% pay increase if student enrollment increases by 2%.

Faculty Regent Report: Faculty Regent Dr. Renee Fister complimented Phil Schooley, saying that he represents staff well at the Board of Regents meetings.

Phil Schooley complimented Dr. Fister's work as Faculty Regent.

Dr. Fister reported on the fire truck that MSU has decided to purchase from the city of Murray.

Welcome to New Staff Congress Members: John Young welcomed Jessica Evans as the newest member of Staff Congress. He also welcomed the Staff Congress members-elect visiting today's meeting. Drew Perry said his wife has accepted a position in Lexington and they will be relocating, which has led to his resignation from Staff Congress. He thanked staff for electing him to Staff Congress.

APPROVAL OF MAY MEETING MINUTES: Shanna Burgess noted that on page 2 of the May minutes, under Sick Leave Appeal Committee, the extra "a" should be deleted in the first sentence "...Staff Congress has a received..." Shanna Burgess made a motion to approve the May minutes as corrected. Daniel Williams seconded, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MAY TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Debbie Plummer presented the May Treasurer's Report. Laura Lohr-Dziekonski made a motion to approve the May Treasurer's Report as presented. Marion Hale seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: No report.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Orville Herndon welcomed Jessica Evans who will be completing Amber Harris' term on Staff Congress which expires in 2015. He welcomed newly elected members attending today's meeting. Openings exist on Staff Congress to complete Billy Russell's and Drew Perry's terms.

Staff Recognition Committee: Dana Howard said the Staff Recognition Committee is waiting for the date of the Staff Recognition Luncheon to be determined.

Dana said she has received a "Got Something to Say" form which was used to nominate someone for the Staff Excellence Award. She said she will ask the person who submitted the form if he would like to submit the nomination for the 2014 Staff Excellence Awards, as the deadline for 2013 Staff Excellence Awards has passed.

Staff Special Events Committee: Shanna Burgess said she will be purchasing items to use as door prizes for the staff holiday reception.

Communications Committee: Laura Lohr-Dziekonski reported that the Communications Committee is waiting for the date of the Staff Recognition Luncheon to be determined before sending out a newsletter with the Years of Service Awards Lists.

Working Conditions Committee: Jerry O'Bryan reported that work boots with safety toes have been ordered for those employees whose jobs require them.

Staff Congress Foundation Book Scholarship Committee: No report.

Personnel Policies and Benefits Committee: No report.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:

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.

International Studies Advisory Committee: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Executive Officers: Parliamentarian Marion Hale explained the election process and eligibility requirements for the executive offices. Ballots with the names of candidates who submitted their names prior to today's meeting were distributed. She opened the nominations for President. No nominations were made. She opened the nominations for Vice-President. No nominations were made. She opened the nominations for Treasurer. None were made. Orville Herndon made a motion that nominations close. Laura Lohr-Dziekonski seconded, and the motion carried.

The completed ballots were collected and tallied. John Young received 20 votes for President. Laura Lohr-Dziekonski received 20 votes for Vice-President. For Secretary, Debbie Plummer and Sheri Riddle each received 8 votes and Daniel Williams received 4 votes. New ballots were distributed for a tie-breaker vote between Debbie Plummer and Sheri Riddle. The ballots were collected and tallied with the following results: Sheri Riddle received 11 votes and Debbie Plummer received 9 votes.

Meeting schedule for 2013-2014: John Young said that Staff Congress meets on the third Wednesday of each month. He requested that a motion be made that the March meeting of Staff Congress be moved to the Wednesday after spring break. Tressa Ross made a motion that the March Staff Congress meeting be moved to the Wednesday after spring break. Daniel Williams seconded, and the motion carried.

Committee Choices: John Young said he will send an email to Congress members with information on the committee responsibilities and ask them to list their committee preferences.

Outgoing Staff Congress Members: John Young recognized and thanked Staff Congress members who have completed their terms with Staff Congress and will not be returning in July: Cathy Bazar, Christian Cruce, Tami Dandeneau, Lana Jennings, Drew Perry, and Janeen Winters.

Announcement: Marion Hale announced Laura Lohr-Dziekonski has been elected as president of the Kentucky Division of the International Association of Administrative Professionals.

ADJOURNMENT: Daniel Williams made a motion to adjourn. Marion Hale seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.