



Staff Congress

Draft Minutes for November 15, 2017 304 North Applied Science Building

Present: Re’Nita Avery-Meriwether, James Barnett, Jami Carroll, Roy Dunaway, Duane Dycus, Jessica Evans, Jeff Gentry, Debbie Griffith, Parker Griffith, Marion Hale, Orville Herndon, Mary-Elaine Horn, Leanna Linn McClure, Jerry O’Bryan, Kendrick Quisenberry, Debbie Plummer, Brian Purcell, Amy Watters, Tim Williams, David Wilson, John Young, and Staff Regent Phil Schooley.

Guests: Dr. Robert Davies, President; Joyce Gordon, Director, Human Resources; Jamie Haynes, Assistant Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations, Office of Development.

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

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:

Dr. Robert Davies, President: Dr. Davies explained enrollment strategies developed by the Admissions Office and Provosts. He discussed budget preparations. The Budget Advisory Committee met to review the past year. A budget summit for shared governance is scheduled for November 21. The State Fire Marshall’s investigation of the Richmond Hall incident continues. The insurance engineers will assess the structural integrity of the building. Dr. Davies thanked staff for their service to the university. He invited employees to the Thanksgiving meal at Winslow and encouraged them to enjoy time with family and loved ones during Thanksgiving. He answered questions.

Jamie Haynes, Assistant Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations, Office of Development: Jessica Evans introduced Jamie Haynes, Assistant Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations in the Office of Development. Jessica and Ms. Haynes introduced the K.R. Hayes Staff Development Fund and read its mission statement. Staff may apply to the fund for assistance with professional development. She explained how employees can contribute to the resource. Staff may contact her with questions.

Joyce Gordon, Director, Human Resources: Joyce Gordon said over 700 employees have signed the Racer Wellness Pledge. She provided information about the random screening for non-tobacco user insurance premium discounts. Ms. Gordon asked staff to send photos of university employees at work. The photos will be used as part of Human Resources social media. She answered questions.

Staff Regent Report: Staff Regent Phil Schooley reported on the Staff Survey response rate. The survey will close at midnight on December 15. The Shared Governance Budget Summit will meet on November 21. Regent Kemp has called a meeting of the Board of Regents Finance Committee on the November 21. He reported on upcoming campus events and asked to staff to inform him of events and/or persons to be recognized at the Board of Regents meeting. He asked staff to encourage their co-workers to complete the Staff Survey.

University-wide Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee: John Young said the topics discussed at the most recent Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee meeting were reported by Joyce Gordon earlier in today’s Staff Congress meeting. The committee’s next meeting is scheduled for November 17.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Credentials and Elections Committee Chair Orville Herndon said that Staff Congress voted at the October 2017 meeting to approve the Staff Regent Election dates of March 6-8, and the election schedule as proposed by the Credentials and Election Committee. Staff can contact him with comments or questions concerning the Staff Regent Election or the Spring Staff Congress Election.

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES: Jeff Gentry made a motion to approve the October Meeting Minutes as presented. Tim Williams seconded, and the motion carried.

OCTOBER TREASURER’S REPORT: Jessica Evans presented the October Treasurer’s Report on behalf of Treasurer Laura Lohr who was out-of-town. Debbie Plummer made a motion to approve the October Treasurer’s Report. Amy Watters seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: John Young said the Faculty and Staff Leadership Committee will meet with Dr. Davies on December 5.

Staff Recognition Committee: No report. John Young encouraged staff to submit nominations for the Staff Excellence Award.

Staff Special Events Committee: Staff Special Events Committee Chair Jessica Evans said the Children’s Christmas Party is scheduled for December 2, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., on the second floor concourse of the Curris Center. She thanked those who have volunteered and asked

for additional volunteers. She thanked staff for bringing bags of individually wrapped candy to be given to party attendees. Congress members who are available are asked to assist with filling the party favor bags on November 28. The Staff Holiday reception is scheduled for December 7, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Communications Committee: No report.

Working Conditions Committee: No report.

Staff Congress Foundation Textbook Scholarship Committee: On behalf of the Textbook Scholarship Committee Chair Robyn Pizzo who was out-of-the country, John Young said the deadline for spring text book scholarship applications is February 1.

Personnel Policies and Benefits Committee: No report.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:

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: On behalf of Laura Lohr, John Young reported on the November 8 meeting of the International Studies Advisory Committee. The meeting included discussion of fees, reduced enrollment, and the Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission.

Budget Advisory Committee: Brian Purcell said that the Budget Advisory Committee met on October 26. Dr. Davies reported on that meeting earlier in today's Staff Congress meeting.

Shared Governance Committee: On behalf of Laura Lohr, John young reported that the Shared Governance Committee met to draft a survey that will be distributed to the university community. The survey is part of SACS accreditation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

John Young reminded attendees that the next Staff Congress meeting is scheduled for December 13.

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Williams made a motion to adjourn. Orville Herndon seconded, and the motion carried.