



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Staff Congress

Draft Minutes for June 15, 2016
304 North Applied Science Building

Present: James Barnett, Shanna Burgess, Jami Carroll, Jessica Evans, Debbie Griffin, Marion Hale, Orville Herndon, Dana Howard, Laura Lohr, Ann Matheny, Jerry O'Bryan, Chuck Plummer, Debbie Plummer, Brian Purcell, Robyn Pizzo, Sheri Riddle, Ashley Rogers, Maria Rosa, Tressa Ross, Rhonda Timmons, Stephanie Totty, John Young, and Staff Regent Phil Schooley.

Guests: Re'Nita Avery-Meriwether, Staff Congress Member-elect; Dr. Bob Davies, President; Jacki Dudley, Vice-President of Finance and Administrative Services; Dr. Kathy Farmer, Faculty Regent-elect; Jeff Gentry, Staff Congress Member-elect; Dr. Adrienne King, Vice-President, University Advancement; Shawn Touney, Director of Communication; Terry Stalls, Staff Congress Member-elect; and Brittney Stinnett, Staff Congress Member-elect.

CALL TO ORDER: Staff Congress President Laura Lohr called the meeting to order.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:

Dr. Robert Davies, President: Dr. Davies said a report on the June 10 Board of Regents meeting has been emailed to employees. At that meeting, the version of the Spousal Employment Policy proposal approved by Faculty Senate was presented and approved by the Board of Regents. Dr. Davies noted that Staff Regent Phil Schooley explained to the board the Staff Congress' objections to the Faculty Senate version of the Spousal Employment Policy. The version proposed by the Faculty Senate allows spouses of university employees to apply for university positions as internal candidates. Brittney Stinnett pointed out that temporary university employees must apply for positions as external candidates and cannot apply as internal candidates.

Dr. Davies explained the pay increases which will begin July 1 for staff paid less than \$10.10 per hour. He said that the administration is continuing to assist displaced staff with employment placement.

Dr. Davies presented a Racer Proud Pin to outgoing Staff Congress President Laura Lohr. He thanked her for her work on behalf of MSU staff.

Jacki Dudley, Vice-President of Finance and Administrative Services: Jackie Dudley said that employment contracts are available for pick up beginning today. Brian Purcell thanked Jackie for her work preparing the budget.

Staff Regent Report: Phil Schooley said he emailed to staff his report on the June 10 Board of Regents meeting. Tressa Ross said she appreciates Phil's work and voice on behalf of staff at the Board of Regents meeting. Staff Congress members agreed.

A question was asked about the parking lots with regards to the new parking tag tiers. Jackie Dudley said a map will be available on the MSU website.

Dr. Adrienne King, Vice-President, University Advancement: Dr. Adrienne King introduced Shawn Touney, Director of Communication. Dr. King then introduced the marketing plan approved by the Board of Regents. The new shield was released on June 13. The on-line tool kit will be available on the Branding, Marketing, and Communication web page. She reminded employees to credit the university when using photos from the university's Smug Mug account. She said that Shawn has created a press release template. Press releases must first be submitted to Shawn before being released. Dr. King requested feedback on what is available in the on-line tool kit.

Dr. King would like employees to update the logo and tag line on email signature lines. Printed items with the previous shield logo may continue to be used until the supply has been exhausted rather than being discarded. When new materials are ordered, the new shield logo and tag line should be used. New logos have been sent to the colleges but not to the departments yet. Staff may contact Branding, Marketing, and Communication to request the new logo for their departments. She reminded staff to request an electronic copy of letterhead when placing orders for paper items.

MAY MEETING MINUTES: Robyn Pizzo said that her name should be included in the attendance section of the May minutes. John Young made a motion to approve the May minutes as corrected. Marion Hale seconded, and the motion carried.

MAY TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Jessica Evans presented the May Treasurer's Report. Debbie Plummer made a motion to approve the May Treasurer's Report as presented. James Barnett seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Laura Lohr thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as Staff Congress President and thanked Congress members for their service on Staff Congress.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Committee Chair Orville Herndon reported that all write-in candidates in the Facilities Management category have been contacted. None of those persons accepted the position on Staff Congress. The Credentials and Elections Committee plans to meet in July before the next Staff Congress meeting.

Staff Recognition Committee: On behalf of Staff Recognition Committee Chair Ashley Rogers who was unable to attend today's Staff Congress meeting, Laura Lohr reported that nominations have been received for the Staff Excellence Award. The deadline to submit nominations has been extended to June 30. Employees are encouraged to submit nominations for deserving staff.

Staff Special Events Committee: No report.

Communications Committee: No report.

Working Conditions Committee: No report.

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: John Young said the committee's next meeting was scheduled for July 29. Phil Schooley said that the Board of Regents will meet on July 29. Dr. Kathy Farmer added that the July 29 Board of Regents meeting will be a closed meeting. John Young said because the board meeting will be a closed meeting, the University-wide Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee meeting will probably be held as scheduled on July 29.

The following Staff Congress members serve on the University-wide Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee: James Barnett, Jami Carroll, Jessica Evans, Orville Herndon, Debbie Plummer, Sheri Riddle, Stephanie Totty, and John Young.

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.

Dual Employment Committee: Laura Lohr noted that Dr. Davies reported on this committee earlier in today's Staff Congress meeting. Discussion followed as to whether this committee should now be disbanded. Because this committee is a task force formed by the university president, it is under Dr. Davies' jurisdiction.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers: Parliamentarian Marion Hale explained the eligibility requirements for the executive officer positions. She read the names of those persons who had submitted their names as candidates for officers prior to today's Staff Congress meeting. Candidate for President: John Young; Candidate for Vice-President: Tressa Ross; Candidate for Treasurer: Jessica Evans.

Marion then opened the floor for additional nominations for each position. No additional nominations were made.

Marion distributed paper ballots. The vote tellers communicated with Staff Congress members attending the meeting online via Collaborate and recorded those votes. Marion and the vote tellers collected the ballots and tallied the votes. The election results are as follows. President: John Young; Vice-President: Tressa Ross; Treasurer: Jessica Evans.

ADJOURNMENT: Stephanie Totty made a motion to adjourn. Dana Howard seconded, and the motion carried.