



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Staff Congress

Draft Minutes for September 21, 2016 304 North Applied Science Building

Present: Shanna Burgess, Jami Carroll, Jessica Evans, Jeff Gentry, Marion Hale, Orville Herndon, Dana Howard, Laura Lohr, Jerry O'Bryan, Robyn Pizzo, Debbie Plummer, Brian Purcell, Tressa Ross, Michele Sanders, Terry Stalls, Brittney Stinnett, Tim Williams, John Young, and Staff Regent Phil Schooley.

Guests: Dr. Bob Davies, President; Dr. Kathy Farmer, Faculty Regent; Dr. Renee Fister, Senior Presidential Advisor for Strategic Initiatives; James Herring, Chief of Campus Police, Public Safety; Dr. Adrienne King, Vice-President of University Advancement; Dr. Robert Pervine, Associate Provost representing Dr. Renae Duncan; and Gerald Washington, Director, United Way.

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

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:

Jeff Gentry introduced new Campus Police Chief James Herring. He encouraged staff to use the LiveSafe app. Dr. Davies presented Mr. Herring with a Racer Proud Pin and said that several students have made positive comments to him about the new Police Chief.

Dr. Adrienne King introduced Gerald Washington, United Way Director, who gave a brief presentation on United Way, saying that the organization has received great support from university employees. Dr. Davies said that Mr. Washington spoke at a recent volunteer symposium, then presented him with a Racer Proud pin.

Dr. Robert Davies, President: Dr. Davies gave an update on the September meeting of the task force of Kentucky public university presidents. The group is working to develop a proposal model for performance funding criteria. The MSU Board of Regents has created a statement concerning performance funding models. The statement is included in the report from Staff Regent Phil Schooley.

Dr. Davies has been asking students for their input on the concept of a student-centered university. Dr. Davies has created a draft statement that defines student-centered university, the values that entails, and what student-centered means to faculty, staff, and students. The document is on the President's webpage. He encouraged staff to read the document and provide feedback.

He has created a task force to develop a strategy and structure to meet the goals for experiential learning. The group will use feedback from various university groups to finalize the document which will be presented to the Board of Regents and implemented beginning July 1, 2017. This strategy will make MSU unique by bringing together areas such as student service and experiential learning. As part of experiential learning, Career Services will begin creating internships and trainings and will assist in finding service opportunities.

Dr. Davies answered questions concerning the Fair Labor Standards Act which affects some exempt and non-exempt positions. He answered questions about the potential city payroll tax. He encouraged employees to be informed on the topic.

Dr. Adrienne King, Vice-President of University Advancement: Dr. King said that Staff Regent Phil Schooley brought a sample of the new recruitment initiative folder designed for prospective students who visit campus. It has university phone numbers needed by prospective students and pockets for materials received during a campus visit. It was developed based on marketing research conducted with parents last spring. MSU traveling recruiters are already using the folder. Dr. King's office is developing materials for the Honors College, Graduate Recruitment, and the Transfer Center. She welcomes feedback from staff and students.

Carrie McGinnis will begin as the new Director of Alumni Relations on October 17. Dr. King reported on alumni group gatherings in southern Illinois, Huntsville, Alabama, and Paducah, which provide communication opportunities for alumni who are parents of current and prospective students. This year's homecoming will recognize the ninetieth anniversary of the Alumni Association. Scholarship fundraising challenges during homecoming will include the alumni decades with the most participants and the most dollars raised.

Dr. Renee Fister, Senior Presidential Advisor for Strategic Initiatives: Dr. Renee Fister said the funding proposals which are part of the Strategic Initiatives Plan are due October 12. Employees should have received an email concerning the experiential learning portion of the Strategic Plan. The updated plan is available on the Strategic Initiatives Plan webpage.

Staff Regent Report: Staff Regent Phil Schooley said that he emailed his report to Staff Congress members this morning. At the September Board of Regents meeting, Phil discussed the Staff Recognition Luncheon and he introduced the 2016-2017 Staff Congress Officers. The next Board of Regents meeting is scheduled for December 9. He welcomes questions.

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES: Laura Lohr made a motion to approve the August minutes as presented. Orville Herndon seconded, and the motion carried.

AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Jessica Evans presented the August Treasurer's Report. Laura Lohr made a motion to approve the August Treasurer's Report as presented. Orville Herndon seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: No report.

Credentials and Elections Committee: Credentials and Elections Committee Chair Orville Herndon said that as part of the process of filling the vacancies on Staff Congress created by the resignations of Ann Matheny and Logan Stout, the Credentials and Elections Committee has given the Staff Congress Executive Committee the names of the recipients of the highest number of votes in the April 2016 Staff Congress Election. Pending approval from Human Resources, those names will be presented to Staff Congress.

Staff Recognition Committee: John Young said that August 1 is the tentative date for the 2017 Staff Recognition Luncheon. He is waiting for notification from Dr. Davies' office that the President can attend the luncheon. Classes start on August 15.

Staff Special Events Committee: This committee does not yet have a chair for 2016-2017.

Communications Committee: This committee does not yet have a chair for 2016-2017.

Working Conditions Committee: John Young asked Jerry O'Bryan to chair the Working Conditions Committee.

Staff Congress Foundation Book Scholarship Committee: Book Scholarship Committee Chair Robyn Pizzo reminded staff that the scholarship application deadline is October 1. Laura Lohr will post a reminder on the Staff Congress Facebook page. Jessica Evans has included a reminder in *Racer Nation*. Phil Schooley said he will include the scholarship application deadline in his next email.

Personnel Policies and Benefits Committee: No report.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:

Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee: John Young said the Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee has met twice since the August Staff Congress meeting. The committee was presented with three options for the insurance premium split. The committee recommended to Jackie Dudley that the university accept "Option 3: Employee pays for 20 percent of the increase; Contribution split between employer coverage at 83% of the total plan costs with the employee covering 17%." John read to Staff Congress the reply Jackie Dudley sent to the committee, which stated that the committee's recommendation has been accepted.

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: Laura Lohr said the International Studies Advisory Committee will meet November.

OLD BUSINESS: Laura Lohr said she will chair the Staff Congress Staff Recognition Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: Tressa Ross asked Staff Congress members to consider conducting Staff Congress business at the beginning of the monthly meetings (1:30 p.m.) and asking guests to attend and present their information beginning at 2:00 p.m. This would allow Staff Congress members who must leave during the meeting to be present during report presentations and to ensure a quorum is available for voting which may occur. Discussion followed. The consensus of the members in attendance was to try the meeting agenda order suggested by Tressa. Parliamentarian Marion Hale said that if needed during a meeting, the members can vote to suspend the agenda if not finished with committee reports in order to allow guests to present their reports. Staff Congress can then finish the report presentations and other business after the guest have finished.

ADJOURNMENT: Debbie Plummer made a motion to adjourn. Jeff Gentry seconded and the motion carried.