



Staff Congress

Draft Minutes for November 14, 2018 304 North Applied Science Building

Present: Marty Anderson, Re’Nita Avery, Jami Carroll, S.G. Carthell, Kevin Crawford, Duane Dycus, Jessica Evans, Debbie Griffin, Marion Hale, Ladonna Hamontree, Orville Herndon, Trish Lofton, Laura Lohr, Leanna Linn McClure, Jackie Morgan, Jerry O’Bryan, Debbie Plummer, Brian Purcell, Matt Purdy, David Wilson, John Young, and Staff Regent Phil Schooley.

Guests: Sherry Crittenden, Director, Angels Community Clinic; Dr. Katherine Farmer, Faculty Regent; Joyce Gordon, Director, Human Resources; Dr. Robert Jackson, Interim University President; and Lauren Smee, Wellness Coordinator, Human Resources; and Gerald Washington, Director, United Way.

CALL TO ORDER: Staff Congress President Marion Hale called the meeting to order.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS:

Dr. Bob Jackson, Interim University President: Dr. Bob Jackson discussed information from the November 12 Finance Committee meeting. He said the committee is proposing the elimination of KTRS and ORP buy-back for sick leave, which is funded by each department. Legislation has been introduced to address the issue, with a Supreme Court ruling to be announced at a later date. He sent Staff Congress President Marion Hale an email concerning the formation of a Parking Services Advisory Committee. Marion Hale said the Parking Services Advisory Committee would be discussed later in today’s Staff Congress meeting. Dr. Jackson answered questions.

Joyce Gordon, Director, Human Resources: Joyce Gordon said Human Resources is working with individual staff members affected by outsourcing to assist them in transferring to other university departments or in retiring. She noted that an agenda item will be presented to the Board of Regents to provide the two-week holiday compensation to those employees retiring in December. The compensation study will be paused due to budget information that Dr. Jackson discussed earlier in today’s Staff Congress meeting.

Lauren Smee, Wellness Coordinator, Human Resources: Lauren Smee reported on the Health Fair and thanked staff for encouraging co-workers to attend the event. She and Joyce Gordon welcomed feedback on the Health Fair. Lauren reminded staff to watch for emails from Human Resources with information about the Wellness Pledge.

Sherry Crittenden, Director, Angels Community Clinic: Sherry Crittenden discussed the services offered by Angels Community Clinic for Calloway County residents who work or who are full-time students and cannot afford health insurance. The clinic strives to find other providers for those who do not meet the qualifications to receive services at the Angels Clinic. The clinic receives funding from United Way, churches, and Angels Attic Thrift Shop.

Gerald Washington, Director, United Way: Gerald Washington discussed the United Way’s work. He thanked those who have contributed to United Way for their support and brought payroll deduction forms for employees to use to donate to United Way.

Staff Regent Report: Phil Schooley said the Finance Committee will present a report at the December 7 Board of Regents meeting. At its December 7 meeting, the board will discuss the timetable and set parameters for the search for a university president. The Open House Reception at Oakhurst will be on December 3. Staff may contact Phil or Staff Congress President Marion Hale with questions about the Presidential Search Forum that was held on November 12. Staff may also contact him with input on the search. Phil is on the Athletic Director Search Committee which is accepting applications for the position. A calendar has not yet been established for the committee. A search for a Facilities Management Director is in progress.

Faculty Regent Report: No report.

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES: Laura Lohr made a motion to approve the October minutes as presented. David Wilson seconded, and the motion carried.

OCTOBER TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer Jessica Evans presented the October Treasurer’s Report. Laura Lohr made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Debbie Plummer seconded, and the motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: No report.

Credentials and Elections Committee: No report.

Staff Recognition Committee: No report.

Staff Special Events Committee: Jackie Morgan reminded attendees of the upcoming Children's Christmas Party and Staff Holiday Reception. She announced the November 29 meeting time and location for the committee and any Staff Congress volunteers to fill the treat bags for the children's Christmas party.

Communications Committee: Chair Laura Lohr said at its October 15 meeting, the committee met to discuss ideas for communicating with staff including starting a Staff Congress Twitter account and posting a monthly newsletter link on the Staff Congress webpage and in *Racer Nation*.

Working Conditions Committee: Jerry O'Bryan said the committee will need to meet to discuss information about early retirement.

Staff Congress Foundation Book Scholarship Committee: Committee Chair Re'Nita Avery reported on the amounts raised at the rebate nights for the textbook scholarship and thanked staff for participating in the rebate nights. The committee hopes to have rebate nights for the scholarship in the spring. Marion Hale said she requested the opportunity to make a presentation at a future Board of Regents meeting to inform regents of the textbook scholarship.

Personnel Policies and Benefits Committee: No report.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES:

Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee: John Young reported that the agenda for the November 16 meeting of the Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee includes reports on open enrollment and health insurance, and a report from the Finance Committee. Also on the agenda is a presentation by the Women's Faculty Caucus concern providing lactation rooms on campus. John said the Staff Congress Working Conditions Committee previously discussed the issue of campus lactation rooms. Brian Purcell, Working Conditions Committee member, added that the committee's discussion stalled on which rooms to use and where to locate them across campus to accommodate the employees across campus who would be using them.

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.

Budget Advisory Committee: Brian Purcell said that earlier in today's Staff Congress meeting, Dr. Jackson discussed the information from the Finance Committee, including the living wage promise.

Shared Governance Committee: No report.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

ByLaws Revision Committee: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Parking Services Advisory Committee: President Marion Hale said she forwarded to the Staff Congress Executive Committee the email response from Dr. Jackson which declares the Parking Services Advisory Committee in effect and requests the recommendation of staff members to serve on the committee. Marion has asked Duane Dycus, Ladonna Hamontree, and Trish Lofton to serve on the Parking Services Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: John Young made a motion to adjourn. Debbie Plummer seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.