



Staff Senate Minutes

February 11, 2015 – 1:15 p.m.

7th Street Underground Loft, MLK Union

Senators Present: Suzann Bennett, Angie Campbell, Tony Craven, Joann Daugherty, Susan DeRousse, Adam Due, Christine Edwards, Christine Jenkins, Renee Kerz, Derek Light, Leah Reynolds, Ryan Siegel, Cindy Starwalt, John Warner

Senators Absent: Jonathan Hunt, Shawn Peoples, Melissa Coleman, Melissa Gordon

Guests: Paul McCann, Interim VP Business Affairs, Dr. Richard Enyard, Director, Human Resources, Joshua Robertson, Mid Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Edwards at 1:17 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the January meeting were approved. (Light/Warner)

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$296.04.

Committee Reports:

A. Budget & Planning Committee –

CUPB – Discussed: welcome packets for new employees, developing campaign to increase donations for scholarships, large staff turnout for presidential candidates; BOT to identify new president at the 3/2/15 meeting

University Naming – Senator Reynolds reported on two newly-named rooms on campus. Lumpkin 3015 is now the Literacy in Financial Education (LIFE) Center in memory of 1958 grad, Kenneth Taylor. The student lounge in Klehm Hall is named in memory of FCS alum, Esther Brothers Elmore.

B. Election Committee – Elections will be held in April. Committee will start to work on it.

C. Liaison Committee – Senator Siegel reported on a previous Faculty Senate meeting and their discussion of the CAA and Learning Goals in majors. Senator Bennett reported that VP Nadler made a presentation to the Faculty Senate regarding the Athletic budget overage. Dr. Nadler will meet with Staff Senate in March about that topic.

D. Personnel Policies, Benefits & Welfare Committee – The Committee met and discussed voluntary benefits and discounts employees might receive through HR. (A list of discounts is available on the HR website under Employee Discounts.) Senator Campbell said that the pension estimator calculator was on-line. The actuarial tables will change in January 2016, and may affect retirement amounts. Senator Due stated when he tried to access the information; there was a problem with the amounts and calculations for police officers. Dr. Enyard talked about the results of a benefits survey which found that most interest was in long term care insurance, wellness programs, identify theft, life and pet insurance and purchasing power to buy items through payroll deduction. However, VP McCann said that state agencies cannot withhold certain things from paychecks and this limits what can be withheld.

E. Staff Outreach – Senator Jenkins reported the Committee has met several times, over a long period of time, to try and revise the committee purpose as stated in the Constitution. The original purpose is outdated and has not been followed for many years. The committee has had difficulty developing a new purpose and finally took a vote to disband the committee entirely. Senator Jenkins will present a draft of a proposed amendment to the Constitution at the next meeting.

F. Ad-Hoc Committees –

Staff Recognition/Development Committee – President Edwards said the committee had met to work on how to roll out the Shout Out Page through a soft launch. They discussed how to notify the first 50 Shoutees about receiving a free drink or baked good at Java B & B.

Constituent Reports: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: -Senator Siegel suggested the possibility of having invited speakers addressing the Faculty and Staff Senates jointly to save time. VP McCann said he would like Staff Senate to have their presentations separately so we can get our own questions answered. –Stanley Solutions poll is getting good results, keep on voting. –President Edwards reported that the recent Admissions trip to Schaumburg, IL was very well attended and that the Feb. 16th Admitted Student Day is expected to be attended by 350 freshman students. – NCAA is complete and EIU passed. – Governor Rauner’s Executive Order was discussed and questions were asked about the impact it would have at EIU.

Questions for the President: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Suzann Bennett, Secretary

Next Meeting: March 11, 2015, 7th Street Underground Loft, MLK Union, 1:15 p.m.