



Staff Senate Minutes

October 14, 2015 – 1:15 p.m.

7th Street Underground Loft, MLK Union

Quorum Present

Senators Present: Suzann Bennett, Angie Campbell, Joann Daugherty, Susan DeRousse, Adam Due, Melissa Gordon, Jonathan Hunt, Derek Light, Cindy Starwalt, Lisa Walker, Michelle Wayne, Leah Reynolds

Guest: Faculty Senate Liaison & Paul McCann

Senators Absent: Shawn Peoples, Tony Craven, Renee Kerz, Peggy Brown, Christine Jenkins, Melissa Coleman

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice President Reynolds at 1:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the September minutes was made by Derek Light. It was 2nd by Joann Daugherty. The minutes from the September meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$0.00. The new budget has not been loaded yet.

Constituent Reports:

Liaison for Faculty Senate- Spoke on the re-organization of CATS on campus and the concern of how the work load would be handled due to being short-handed it will potentially affect service to students.

October 6th, Faculty Senate recommended that faculty consider a vote of no confidence on Blair Lord- vote with take place in November with their elections so they know they will have the numbers they need for voting to take place.

Perhaps Staff Senate can do the same.

Homecoming Parade- UPI, Local AFSCME 981, trades, etc. are making floats, banners and are walking in the parade.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Review/Vote on Bylaws- these have not been finished yet- still being revised.

New Business:

A. Exec meeting with the President-

- Parents were contacting him about rumors with spring closing and he stated that there was no truth to it; we would be open in spring 2016 and in fall 2016 as well.
- The state will give us our appropriation we just don't know when or exactly how much.
- How that rumor came about was when the Senate was meeting with the president he was trying to stress the ultimate effect of the university not having the budget and it was taken out of context and put into the DEN the next day.
- All public universities cannot survive without the appropriation.

What efforts are being done to make sure students are registered for spring?

- We need to be proactive as a campus and encourage our students to register and communicate to them that we will be open.

EIU has been floating the MAP Grant money to students who were awarded it because the state has not fulfilled their commitment to those students and a lot of them depend on it.

Lakeland has stopped their Adult Education and December 31st they will have layoffs Oct 20th in Springfield rally- anyone has the ability to take AL and be an advocate but the president cannot ask us to do anything.

- U of I alumni are sending letters and petitions

Status of Early Retirement- it was looked at because they thought it could save money, however after looking into it EIU would have lost money in what they would have to payout for accrued leave so they are no longer considering it. It was meant to be a cost-saving initiative and unfortunately is not.

Budgets and layoffs- 159 positions not people have been laid-off and will save roughly \$10million- final analysis is not out yet because ending payrolls are still going thru.

- There is not another plan or next series of layoffs as of right now
- If the state gives us 6.5-8% of appropriations then we should be fine, if its 15% 18% we would have to look at things again.

We are down approximately 400 students overall, but our freshman class is up and well as our graduate student enrollment. We are down in transfer students.

B. Concern with President's Council that has been inherited hasn't been doing their jobs when it comes to VP's- not advocating to rally at Springfield.

- As a Staff Senate we need to do more so that the message is stronger; are we representing our constituents the way we should be? This is tabled till next time

as Leah was looking into drafting something to supplement what Faculty Senate did- not just for one VP but all of them.

- IBHE meeting- Enlightened to hear what has been discussed and what hasn't been shared.
 - IBHE represents all public and private institutions
 - Budget is a pending concern- we are not alone
 - There are a lot of negative accounts that will have to pay back to the state and this is something we would have to face in March if we do not get the budget.
- Accrued leave can be taken for the October 20th rally in Springfield.
- Paul McCann stressed the importance of being involved

Questions for the President:

- A. Senator Jenkins had a question for Paul/President regarding the W Lot and the recent sexual assault that took place. She drove by in the morning and still saw cars and a lot of paraphernalia-
 - a. she is asking that since Carman is not occupied if these items can be moved there?
 - i. Paul said the matter is being looked into.
- B. Paul spoke on items discussed from Staff Senate Exec Board Meeting
- C. Senators asked about the new logo;
 - i. How is it a cost savings?
 - ii. What was the goal of the new logo and where did that info come from?
 - iii. Why wasn't the campus involved to help potentially boost morale?
 - iv. Why was it outsourced?

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Senator DeRousse and 2nd by Senator Wayne. Meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Susan DeRousse, Secretary

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