

Staff Senate Minutes

January 19, 2005

Attendees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Albino	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristi Greier
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keshia Askew	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhonda Griner
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paulette Bell	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anne Harper
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Jane Blackwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Candy Horch
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peggy Bower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Diane Jackson
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scarlet Brooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann Lee
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Campbell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crystal Lee
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathi Curtis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Logan
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Holly Denenny	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ray Pinner
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mattie Draper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marilyn Ratliff
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marcie Eppling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linda Stanley
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Fowlkes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jan Williamson
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Gibbs		

Proxies:

Holly Denenny for Anne Harper

Paulette Bell for Rhonda Griner

The meeting was called to order by Peggy Bower at 11:07 a.m.

Minutes of last meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2004, meeting was made by Ann Lee and seconded by Paulette Bell.

Old Business:

Peggy gave an update on the status of Staff Senate issues/goals/objectives for the year.

- Bylaws Committee—no revisions to the bylaws have occurred to date.
 - Elections Committee—Elections will be this spring. Linda Stanley noted that the bylaws specify that elections are to be held the week before the staff picnic. Once the picnic date is set, the committee will set the dates for nominations and for the election.
 - Employee Benefits Committee
 - (1) Sick Leave Banking Policy—Peggy has sent the proposal, along with a memo requesting approval, to Ray Pinner and Dr Franz. We are asking the University to cover the policy for all employees, regardless of the pay source.
 - (2) TIAA CREF matching for non-exempt employees—this was pursued unsuccessfully last year at the system level.
 - (3) Tuition Assistance package—Has had several enhancements already.
 - (4) Extra paid leave days—Did not get approval.
 - (5) Floating leave day for the 2006-07 academic year—our proposal was for either an extra day at semester break or the Friday of spring break. No decision has been made as yet.
- Other items being reviewed by the committee may be reported on at some point.

- Employee Development Committee—Established the Welcoming Committee and are still working out the details.
- Government Relations Committee—Not much has been happening for the group this year, but activity should pick up soon.
- Policies and Procedures Committee—This committee has worked with Staff Employment and Human Resources to answer some questions and review some items. The problem relative to the sick leave policy in one division was hopefully taken care of at the retirement of the former Vice President of that division.
- Communications—The Staff Senate website has been revised and updated. Matthew is trying to get meeting minutes from past years on the site, so we (as well as others) can look at the Senate's undertakings and accomplishments through the years.

New Business

Peggy gave a report from the December meeting of the UAH Administrative Council.

- Rick Shrout discussed the new student employment classifications.
- Delois Smith reported on flu inoculations and the availability of the flu vaccine. She also discussed the Exponent article regarding TB testing and immunizations and the protocol that was followed.
- Dr. Franz reported on the plans to improve the open fields south of SE Housing in order to create an outdoor sports complex. The county has agreed to assist with the subterranean work. The cost for the rest of the work will come from UAH funds and donations. The project will be done in three phases—Phase I and II will involve preparation of the playing fields, and Phase III will include amenities (bleachers, concession stands, scoreboards, etc.). Phase III is the most expensive, and donors will be sought for these items. Initial work should be done in December and January.
- The endowed scholarship funds were discussed.
- Ray Pinner reminded the group that cell phones and palm pilots may not be purchased on 2 accounts. They may be purchased on 3 or 5 accounts if they are required for the job and if the purchase is approved by the appropriate supervisor or vice president. They may not be purchased on an LPO.

Other Business

- Peggy asked for suggestions for presentations for the February and March Staff Senate meetings. She noted that the Chancellor is scheduled to speak to the faculty and staff in April.
- Peggy encouraged the Senate to be thinking about nominations for next year's Senate and officers.
- Peggy also encouraged each senator to think about ways to help with the staff picnic—soliciting door prizes, set up, clean up, etc. The Picnic Committee will work with Cynthia Doubet, Special Events Coordinator, to set a date.

Announcements

- Holly reviewed the list of UAH Homecoming activities planned for the weekend of January 28-29. These include a bonfire, pep rally, and block party on that Friday, and a tailgate party Charger Walk on Saturday. Mr. And Ms. Charger will be selected this year from the freshman and sophomore classes, based on their achievements. They will be presented at half time of the women's game, which starts at 5:00 p.m. The Homecoming court will be

presented at half time of the men's game, with the crowning to occur at the Homecoming dance after the game. The complete schedule of Homecoming events will be published in next week's Exponent.

Crystal moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:32 a.m.