

**Staff Senate Meeting  
October 17, 2007**

<b>Attendees</b>			
<b>X</b>	Zeke Aguilera	<b>X</b>	Renata Limmer
	Keshia Askew	<b>X</b>	Demetrice Mitchell
	Kelvin Bee	<b>X</b>	Melanie Newby
	Kevin Bennett	<b>X</b>	Tammy Paltchikov
	Jackie Carlson		Ray Pinner
<b>X</b>	Jamie Clay	<b>X</b>	Sheila Ray
	Joanie Fletcher	<b>X</b>	Rhonda Reynolds
<b>X</b>	Claudia Ford		Deborah Rice
	Marcia Green		Doris Ruddle
	Annie Harris	<b>X</b>	Ravi Seth
	April Harris		Jacqueline Siniard
<b>X</b>	Kristy Holland		Karen Smith
	Karla Hubbert	<b>X</b>	Nikki Willis
<b>X</b>	Barbara Lawson		
<b>Guests: President David Williams, Mary Beth Walker</b>			

**List Proxies:**

Renata Limmer for Jackie Carlson, Jamie Clay for Jackie Siniard, Zeke Aguilera for Rhonda Reynolds, Laurel Long for Ray Pinner, Tammy Paltchikov for Deborah Rice, Joanie Fletcher, & Kelvin Bee.

**The meeting was called to order by Tammy Paltchikov at 11:02 a.m.**

**Minutes of the last meeting:**

Minutes approved

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Committee Reports:**

Staff Picnic Committee: Staff Picnic will be held in May 2008. Mary Beth Walker suggested that we may consider including Faculty at Staff Picnic. If faculty goes to the Lowe House and staff somewhere else, is that sending the wrong message? President Williams would like for the Senators to let colleagues know that his is sensitive to this matter. Senate to provide feedback to the President. Noted by Mary Beth Walker: The President's Special Events Fund pays for the picnic.

Christmas Holiday Party Alternatives – Decision made to not have this year. Committee to propose options (e.g. solicit donations from Staff Senate for Harvest Dinner, adopt an angel(s) from the UAH Engineering Christmas Tree.)

The Benefits Committee is working on a proposal for Short Term Disability as well as paid leave for employees for Fall and Spring breaks. Zeke Aguilera posed a question to President Williams regarding tuition assistance for employees who opt to take courses at other institutions which are not offered at UAH. President Williams stated that we should look into that.

Communications Committee: The Faculty and Staff webpage updates will include news alerts, master calendar, and student activities. Kristy Holland reminded us that ChargerNet will customize websites to students, faculty and staff, eliminating a lot of present issues. Target Date for ChargerNet is sometime in January.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- President Williams stated that he is open to attending Staff Senate meetings on a regular basis or as necessary. He asked the senators to provide him feedback regarding staff appreciation and recognition. He wanted to know if we felt that it was sufficient and if there was a distinction between faculty and staff that was felt unfair. President Williams also asked if the staff feels like the university is doing a good job recognizing their presence. He would be willing to work on a committee to address recognition areas and suggested that the senators come up with ideas and notify his office. Senate will discuss ideas at November staff meeting and provide the president with a report. President Williams encouraged the Staff Senate to be proactive to make the campus a better place.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Laurel Long (for Ray Pinner): The Smoking Policy was submitted to the Executive President's Council on October 10, now passed on to the Faculty Senate and SGA.
- Workshops to be offered: 7 Habits of Highly Effective People (10/18/2007).  
Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace at Work (January 2008) – 12 week course \$139, UAH will reimburse half of this cost upon completion of course.
- Zeke Aguilera:  
The Grad Finale was very successful. Students are excited that December Commencement to be held in VBC instead of Spragins Hall, as no tickets will be required to limit their family and guests.  
Zeke and Bethany are raising money for Leukemia/Lymphoma Society ½ Marathon.
- Renata Limmer: Reminders – "Race for the Cure" Breast Cancer Run – 10/19/2007, Diabetes Walk to be held on Sunday, October 20.
- Mary Beth Walker: UAH United Way Fund Drive (10/17 – 11/17). Theme: "Who Cares? I Care! We Care!" Goal: \$70,000.
- Tammy Paltchikov: Photos will be taken immediately following the meeting for the Staff Senate website.
- The next Staff Senate meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14.

**Tammy Paltchikov adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.**