

**Staff Senate Meeting
May 21, 2008**

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

List Proxies:

Jamie Clay for Sheila Ray, Dona Baker and Marcia Green
 Joanie Fletcher for Demetrice Mitchell
 Jan Williamson for Annie Harris

Jamie Clay called the meeting to order at 11:02 am.

The minutes were approved from the last meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Short-Term Disability Update: Sandra Parton gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Voluntary Short-term Disability. Benefits Consulting Firm (VA System) has assisted. Ms. Parton said that all vendor responses were reviewed and narrowed down to four vendors, who will make presentations in June. A decision will be made on the optimum vendor then the development of the chosen plan will be implemented. The enrollment period will begin in October. Effective date of plan: January 1, 2009, if minimum participation numbers are met. Assistance from the Staff Senate promoting the selected program will be helpful. Staff Senator Jan Williamson volunteered to serve on vendor presentation committee.

Holiday Schedules: Ravi Seth – UA/UAB and UAH comparisons: UAH gets fewer sick leave days, but more personal leave days. Spring Break closing is in question per Ravi. Jamie Clay recommended that we continue to investigate, and she will talk with Laurel Long and have more information for June’s meeting.

Staff/Faculty Picnic – Approximately 650 staff and faculty were served at the picnic on May 14. Renata Limmer stated that by moving it indoors because of the inclement weather, the Exhibit Hall seemed more conducive to sitting with other participants and getting to know people. Ravi Seth noted that good comments about everything were received. Kristi Holland commented that attendees seemed to enjoy

eating indoors, the great door prizes and great band. The President's Office paid for the picnic – thanks to all!

Election Process: Joanie Fletcher reported that the elections went well and the new officer election will be in June.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget:

Legislative Update: Ray Pinner: The budget was held up in the State Legislature, there was a long filibuster session and no budget has been approved at this time. Governor Riley will call a special session. Mr. Pinner met with President Williams and others and it is clear that we will have a significant budget reduction. Budget approval was originally scheduled for June 20, but it is doubtful that that will happen.

Budget Meeting Update: Jamie Clay stated the following information was discussed:

- 7.5% best "guesstimate: for cuts – increase in tuition and fees. \$10M hole to fill.
- Some staff going from 100% to 80%, with hiring freeze, there may a combining of staff duties.
- Mandatory direct deposit of paychecks.
- Delay in building renovations.
- President Williams requested that we look at ways to make the Lowe House revenue generating – rent out for special events, etc.

Facilities: Ray Pinner recommended that facility requests from all departments be turned in promptly as Facilities is backlogged for Summer.

Website Maintenance: Kevin Bennett has volunteered to take on the job of Staff Senate website maintenance. He will convert over to standard UAHuntsville format. When completed, Staff Senate Meeting minutes, activities, etc. will be available on-line.

Recycling: Dona Baker raised a question regarding paper recycling effort and solar usage. Kevin Bennett stated that his area does recycle outdated brochures, phone books, etc. and that we generate revenue through surplus. Ravi's area does so as well. Kristi Holland said that currently there is aluminum and plastic recycling in the UC and other buildings, but not all. Before ordering new logo paper products (business cards, stationery, etc.), it is encouraged that we use up what we have on hand. (Note: New logo products are to be ordered initially through University Relations.) It was agreed that a campus-wide recycling program is a program worth looking into.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next month – New Officers Elected at June Staff Senate Meeting. There will be a Pizza Party at this meeting welcoming newly elected staff senators. Jamie Clay will send out email regarding location.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.