

Staff Senate April 21, 2010  
SKH 369

**Present:** Dona Baker, Veronica Belser, Michael Carter, Kim Fuller, Anthony Holden, David Kyle, Vonda Maclin, Jan Perkins, Ray Pinner, Erin Reid, Ravi Seth, Jacqueline Siniard, Mary Beth Walker

**Proxies:** Erin Reid for Jamie Clay, Kim Fuller for Marty Green, Anthony Holden for Debbie Stowers, David Kyle for Lisa Strickland

The meeting was called to order at 3:07pm by President Jackie Siniard

History of Staff Picnic was discussed:

- \*Foundation Funds were used initially under the direction of UAH President, Frank Franz
- \*University Center must use Sodexo as food provider, no outside vendors are allowed
- \*Having event outdoors allows use of outside contractors
- \*In previous years, Sodexo waived the rule to allow for inclement weather
- \*Last year, event was planned, and held inside the University Center in violation of the rule
- \*Utilizing the Shelby Center courtyard and lobby allows use of outside food vendors

Jackie Siniard requested a temporary Staff Senate secretary be crowned for remainder of current term. David Kyle happily obliged to everyone's relief.

Anthony Holden gave an Executive Committee Update:

- \*Grow the revenue stream by recruiting more students
- \*Feasibility study was due from Littman & Hearn on April 9<sup>th</sup>
- \*There is a new Engineering degree program
- \*Commencement will be held in Spragins Hall on May 13 and 14
- \*478 faculty and staff tickets were sold for the UAH hockey game
- \*New on-campus baseball and softball sports fields are complete
- \*Only 12% of faculty and staff have signed up for the UAlert system
- \*Met with Faculty Senate President to discuss joint meeting with Faculty and Staff Senate

Jackie Siniard asked for approval of the letter of support to President Williams. The letter was approved and the senators signed the letter.

### **Committee Reports**

Bylaws:

Anthony Holden reported on Bill 10.04 and it was discussed. This bill would entail the creation of a Staff Senate Constitution. Currently the Bylaws serve as the constitution and the amendment process is too lengthy. Bylaws should be operational and amendable by a simple vote. Bill 10.05 was discussed which would allow the appointment of new senators to replace those that have vacated positions.

Communications: No report

Election:

Jan Perkins reported that the committee met about seeking nominations for Staff Senate to be posted via ChargerPost or campus email.

Employee Benefits:

Ravi Seth reported on the UAH decal situation for part-time employees. They currently pay full price for stickers if they begin their employment in the month of May. They are seeking to prorate the decal fees for these employees. Ray Pinner mentioned that the University applied a blanket policy concerning decal fees, but that the committee should work with Chief Gayles and Campus Police to find a resolution.

Employee Development: No report

Government Relations:

It was noted that a new committee chair was needed. Kim Fuller volunteered and stated that she will meet with Ray Garner to initiate committee tasks.

Staff Picnic:

Vonda Maclin reported that a letter is going out that will contain ticket information. Electronic Invitations will be sent out. The proper account number to use for food purchase was discussed. Three estimates were acquired for the picnic food service provider and Smokey's Bar-B-Q was chosen. It was stated that very few door prizes were attained this year. A discussion was had on the logistics of tickets given out to employees and the minimum number of plates guaranteed to be purchased from Smokey's.

Policies Committee:

Erin Reid reported that the name change procedure with new G-mail will not change. However, employees can change their alias within Google. The addition of a new staff holiday was discussed. Consideration for the Thursday of Spring Break should be given. It was stated that UA has 17 holidays, UAB has 11, and UAHuntsville currently has 14. A letter will be drafted of the request and submitted to University administration. A new severance pay and benefits policy was discussed and handouts of UAB's policy were distributed. Discussion will continue at next meeting. It was stated that a new policy should be formally written out similar to the UAB policy.

UAH Women's Club:

Needs new members and officers. Attendance has been low and employees are encouraged to join.

Ray Pinner reported on the recent board meeting. A bond was approved and will be issued for the new residence hall. A new campus master plan will be voted on during the next board meeting. A new greenway will be built near Lakeside Drive and Holmes Avenue. Leftover federal funds will be used to finance the project and work should begin within one year.

It was noted that there will be no Staff Senate meeting in May as the picnic will occur instead.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10pm.