

UAHuntsville Staff Senate

Meeting Minutes

21 March 2012 11:00 am

VBRH-50, UAHuntsville Campus

I. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order by Rachel Osby at 11:04 a.m.

Attendance

X	Kevin Bennett	X	Vonda Maclin
X	Eric Dossey	X	Rachel Osby – President
	Kathy Gentry	X	Liz Redding
	Debby Griffith	X	Scott Royce- Vice President
	Margaret Hall		Jana Savanapridi
X	Kathy Hosch	X	Patti Sparkman
	Nicke Keimer	X	Jaime Superczynski
	Chris King	X	Pam Tejes –Secretary
X	Valarie King	X	Janice Temmen –Treasurer
X	Penelope Lang	X	Jorgy Umlor
	Melanie Leonard		Daniel Wyers

Quorum present? Yes

Others present: Ray Garner, Director of Public Affairs
Ray Pinner, VP Finance & Administration

Proxy: Rachel Osby is the proxy for Jana Savanapridi and Debby Griffith
Jorgy Umlor is the proxy for Nicke Keimer
Jamie Suerczynski is the proxy for Margaret Hall
Vonda Maclin is the proxy for Kathy Gentry

Guest Speaker, Ray Garner

- Ray is in University Relations for UAHuntsville and System Government Relations role.
- Legislators are discussing pension changes. It will affect new hires effective Jan 1, 2013 and not those in the system or hired this year (see handout).
- Many elected officials have higher education ties which are beneficial, but there are still concerns with the economy. There may be a 2-4 percent cut. Budget will be addressed after the session reconvenes (after spring break). With the Governor's recommendations the University may lose up to \$2M.
- DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) was not going to be feasible over long term. May (re)introduce legislation, but it is likely there will be a cap of \$75K.
- Media has reported talk of UAHuntsville succeeding from the system. This would require constitutional amendment. It does not appear to be well supported; no legislation introduced yet.
- Budget chairs in house and senate have rejected the idea to transfer funds from education trust to general fund.

I. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the February meeting were e-mailed to all Staff Senate members prior to the meeting; senators reviewed them prior to the meeting. A motion was made to approve by Patti Sparkman and seconded by Jorgy Umlor; motion passed unanimously.

II. Unfinished Business

- None

III. Committee Updates

A. Executive Committee- Rachel Osby

- At times, the Staff Senate is asked to propose members for committees on campus that can provide reports to the Senate. Currently there are two opportunities: 1) Charger Green Recycling committee. Susan Phelan has offered to serve. A motion was made to approve by Jaime Superczynski and seconded by Liz Redding; motion passed unanimously. 2) Beta (Behavioral and Threat Assessment) Team (three year term). Jaime Superczynski volunteered. A motion was made to approve by Eric Dossey and seconded by Kathy Hosch; motion passed unanimously. Rachel Osby will notify Dr. Wren (committee chair).
- Strategic Planning Steering Committee has had several meetings and identified goals. Steering committee will set broad goals then departments will set objectives. Visit the President's website (<http://www.uah.edu/president/strategic-planning>) to view notes from meetings.

B. Bylaws Committee- Scott Royce, Chair

- Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 27 at 3pm in CV-housing office.

C. Communications Committee- Jorgy Umlor, Chair

- Meeting held on March 9.
- Printable directory on hold; waiting direction from President regarding communications.
- A motion was made by the Communications committee to migrate the Staff Senate website to the new university template, seconded by Vonda Maclin; motion passed unanimously. ITS will initiate the migration process. Kevin Bennett asked who would be responsible for upkeep. It was mentioned that Rachel Osby and Scott Royce have Joomla! Training and ITS can also assist. Rachel Osby suggested that once the migration is complete, the Senate can discuss further.

D. Election Committee - Kathy Hosch, Chair

- Email to go out next week. Ballot includes photos and bios.
- Committee will meet April 9th to determine winners; announcement at picnic.

E. Employee Benefits Committee – Vonda Maclin, Chair

- No meeting

F. Employee Development Committee- Liz Redding, Chair

- Short meeting to decide direction – decided to further research the service awards. Committee members researching and will meet again to review options.

G. Government Relations Committee- Patti Sparkman, Chair

- 204 (2 buses) of people attended Higher Ed day. Patti Sparkman indicates it was a great experience with good student participation. UAHuntsville was the only blue and white school—we stood out.

H. Policies and Procedures Committee- Jana Savanapridi, Chair

- No meeting

I. Staff Picnic Committee Meeting- Janice Temmen, Chair

The Committee met Monday, March 12:

- Reviewed picnic flyers which are to be posted the 1st week of April (flyer starting with date) and second reminder poster (flyer starting with Have you made your reservations) will be posted 2nd week of April (*Janice Temmen*)
- Reviewed sign-up sheet for workers and will be reintroduced at the March Staff Senate meeting; (*Kathy Gentry*).
- Door-prize sign-up sheet for Staff Senators will be available at the next Staff Senate meeting in March (*Liz Redding*) Turn in prizes to committee by April 17th.
- Received update on food and setup (*Jennifer Brost*)
- Dr. Sherry Carson from Distance Learning and a member of the Earth Week committee will take pictures at the Picnic
 - Kathy Gentry will make contacts to place pictures on the UAH website
- Picnic Tentative agenda is as follows:
 - 11:30 am – Welcome by Rachel Osby
 - 11:35 am – Steel Drum Band
 - 12:20 pm – Door prizes while Steel Drum Band disassembles
 - 12:30 pm – Introduction by Rachel Osby of Dr. Altenkirch
 - Welcome by Dr. Altenkirch
 - 12:40 pm – Announcement of newly elected Senators; Faculty & Staff by Rachel Osby and Faculty Senate rep.
 - 12:45 pm – Door Prizes
 - 1:00 pm – Earth Week Fashion Show
 - 1:20 pm – Door Prizes (till all door-prizes are given away)
(Note – you do not have to be present to win)
- Next meeting, Tuesday, April 17 at 10 am (please turn in door prizes to a committee member prior to this meeting)
 - Agenda for next meeting will be to organize/wrap door prizes
 - Review Picnic agenda
 - Review work schedule

IV. Division Reports

A. Academic Affairs – Daniel Wyers

- None

B. Advancement- Rachel Osby

- Commencement will be on May 5th at VBC; to volunteer contact Toni Morgan.
- Search committee for VP Advancement has met and is working on an ad. Goal is make decision/hire by end of summer.

- Alumni association is hosting Chik-fil-A Leadercast. Accepting nominations for community leader awards.

C. Facilities and Operations – Jorgy Umlor/Kevin Bennett

- Earth Week is April 18-20. See website: earthweek.uah.edu for agenda of events.
- Friday, March 30 (2-4 p.m.) is the rescheduled storm spotter class. Location: SC109. Email Kevin Bennett for reservation.
- April 5th the College of Nursing will have mock disaster drill. University will tie in and have table topic exercise with EMOG. WH (backside) is the location for triage activities. Cullman's medivac helicopter will be here between Library and Nursing buildings. Event begins at 8:00 a.m. and should conclude around 10:30.

D. Finance and Administration – Ray Pinner

- Retirement news is very good.
- Beginning work on budget process. Some reduction in appropriations is expected.

E. Research – Debby Griffith

- None

F. Student Affairs – Jaime Superczynski

- Margaret is in D.C. with students (SGA funded) touring and for a day of service.
- Greek week is April 9-15. Events are planned each night; if you'd like to be on the awards committee, email Jaime. Great opportunity to get acquainted with Greeks.
- Late night breakfast before finals – staff volunteers are needed. Contact Nikki Goode.
- Leadership banquet for students on April 17th. Awards will be given out, e.g., President's Award (grades and involvement).
- WOW Week is August 17th – 26th. If an area wants to sponsor event or volunteer contact Kasey Schaum.
- Homecoming week is set for Oct 8-12th.
- ACE is hosting Spring Fling 13th-17th. Student events held daily.

V. New Business

- None

VI. Discussion

- None

VII. Announcements

- No meeting in April. Just sign up for a time to help with the Faculty/Staff Picnic on April 20th.
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 16 at 11 a.m. in VBRH M-50. Newly elected Senators are invited.
- Remind everyone in your area to vote for Staff Senators 3/26 – 4/6. Check your e-mail for the ballot.

VIII. A motion was made to adjourn by Scott Royce and seconded by Pam Tejes. Meeting adjourned by Rachel Osby at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Tejes, Secretary
Staff Senate