**Staff Senate Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 10, 2013 - 9:00 AM, Billingsly Boardroom**

**Members Present:** Heather Arnold, Dianna Baker, Nicole Brown, Elisa Bryant, Karesa Burr, Gary Edwards, Melanie Epperson, Robert Frossard, Patty Hart, Alicia Hughes, Aaron Lewis, Shavonne McCoy, Tonya Nickle, Lauren Powell, and Nancy Rainey.

**Member(s) Absent / Excused:** Josh Doak

**Determination of Quorum:** Fifteen of Sixteen active members present at the beginning of the meeting, quorum established.

**Call to Order:** A. Hughes called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**Approval of Minutes:** N. Rainey made a motion to approve the minutes; N. Brown seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Administrative/Special Guest Comments:** Mr. Rob Yust introduced Dr. Alan Marble, the new MSSU Interim President, to the Staff Senate. Dr. Marble introduced himself to the Staff Senate. Dr. Marble thanked the Staff Senate for volunteering their time for the Staff Senate and for their work as staff members. He is looking forward to working with the Staff Senate and staff members. Dr. Marble discussed continuing to have an open door policy for the staff and faculty.

**Committee Reports:**  
1. **Communications Committee** – did not meet, the committee presently is without a chair.

2. **Elections Committee** – N. Rainey reported that the committee voted on the Southern Champ Award. The checks have been requested and the names will be posted after the winners have been notified.

3. **Executive Committee** – did not meet.

4. **Legislative Oversight Committee** – did not meet. The committee is waiting for the bylaws to be approved by President’s Council.

5. **Staff Welfare Committee** – K. Burr and P. Hart discussed that the committee reviewed the Event and Clerical Support Pool policy and would like the Staff Senate’s opinion on whether the policy needs revised or discarded because only a few people are volunteering to help because they feel obligated. After discussion the Staff Senate suggested that the Communications Committee look at how to promote this policy to boost the number of people that volunteer their time.

6. **Ad Hoc Committee: Staff Survey** – H. Arnold reported the committee is halfway through the questions that will be used for the staff survey. The committee is going to try to have all questions finalized before the August Staff Senate meeting.
Ad Hoc Committee: Merit Pay – did not meet.

*Hughes called for campus committee reports:*

1. **Administrative Council** – Will begin meeting again in the fall.

2. **Appreciation Committee** – M. Epperson and A. Hughes reported that this committee will potentially be disbanded, but waiting on approval from the President’s Council.

3. **Budget Advisory Council** – did not meet.

4. **Diversity Committee** – did not meet.

5. **Faculty Senate** – Linda Hand, Wendy McGrane, and Richard Laird were in attendance. Faculty Senate will begin meeting again in the fall.

6. **Orientation & Training** – Wilmoth advised they meet quarterly and will be meeting later this month.

7. **Shared Governance** – Lewis reported they have not met; subcommittees are scheduled to meet independently throughout the summer.

8. **Strategic Planning** – Not currently meeting due to the program prioritization process.

9. **Student Senate** – Will begin meeting again in the fall.

**Old Business:**

1. None

**New Business:**

1. Committee Appointments
   - **Communications Committee**: Dianna Baker, Elisa Bryant, and Tonya Nickle
   - **Elections Committee**: Patty Hart
   - **Legislative Oversight Committee**: Nicole Brown, Karesa Burr, Shavonne McCoy, and Lauren Powell
   - **Staff Welfare Committee**: Heather Arnold and Shavonne McCoy
   - **Faculty Senate**: Robert Frossard, Patty Hart, Alicia Hughes
   - **Merit Pay (Ad Hoc)**: Patty Hart

2. **Work at Home Policy** – A. Hughes asked based off guest input from the June 12 meeting, would there be any interest from the Staff Senate to pursue a work at home policy for staff? There was no interest expressed by any member of Staff Senate.

**Comments and Announcements/Guest Input:**

1. L. Hand discussed that Faculty Senate is interested in finding projects that Faculty Senate and Staff Senate can work on together. She also expressed the faculty’s appreciation for all the staff and what they do.

2. W. McGrane discussed that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee would like to work with the Staff Senate Executive Committee to establish criteria for what the faculty and staff would like to see in the new MSSU President. The Faculty Senate would like to see the Staff and Faculty Senate Executive Committees meet with the Board of Governors to discuss what the Board’s plan is in the new MSSU President search, and present a united front to the Board of Governors.

3. Dr. Marble stated that the Board of Governors would welcome input from the Faculty Senate and the Staff Senate. He also stated that the faculty making a comment about how appreciated the staff is, is wonderful because that doesn’t happen everywhere and is great to see that it is that way at MSSU.
4. W. McGrane stated that many people may look at the Event and Clerical Support Pool volunteers as that the volunteer/loaning department may not have enough work to do. How the Event and Clerical Support Pool works needs to be communicated more clearly.

Anonymous Comments – None received.

Received

Comments or suggestions:

Adjournment: A. Lewis made a motion to adjourn. H. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 in Billingsly Board Room

Respectfully submitted by: Patty Hart