Members Present: Josh Doak, Gary Edwards, Mike Fox, Erik Hilgendorf, Greg Killingsworth, Ann Quade, Olive Talley, Debbie Woodmansee, and Ted Wright. (2010-11 new members: Michael Davies, Kathy Feith, Julie Wengert)

Member(s) Absent / Excused: Greg Needham

Determination of Quorum: Nine of ten active members present; quorum established.

Call to Order: Josh Doak called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Approval of Minutes: Josh called for changes in the minutes; there being none asked for a motion to approve; Ann Quade motioned and Greg Killingsworth seconded; all in favor; motion carried and the minutes from the May 12, 2010 were approved as written.

Administrative Comments: None at this time.

Committee Reports:

A. Shared Sick Leave Policy Committee - This committee can be removed from the report as the Shared Sick Leave Policy has been implemented by the institution. Erik Hilgendorf reported that over 2,000 hours have been donated to the bank and one request has been submitted. It was decided to ask HR to report the total number of banked hours at the October benefits enrollment meetings and supply a donation form with the benefits materials.

B. Communications Committee – Greg Needham is absent; Debbie Woodmansee reported that the committee has not met since the last Staff Senate meeting in May.

C. Benefits Committee - The committee will meet July 15, 2010 to review the Superior Service Award process; grievance policy; Shared Benefits (vendor discounts); and review the process for insurance vendors to place bids (list due in September).

a. Rod Surber has served on the Superior Service Awards committee for Human Resources and has requested to serve on the Staff Senate committee. Erik Hilgendorf will invite him to the next subcommittee meeting. Rod will be able to provide the Foundation list of donors ($1000 cash awards x 3) as well as provide history on the process, etc. A concern was voiced that donors might withdraw their monetary contribution if it is not used as allocated. The concern will be addressed and the possible need for dialog with the donors will be reported at the next Staff Senate meeting in July.

D. Election Committee – Josh would like of the Election Committee to meet following the next Staff Senate meeting (following the current term) to discuss representation / possible expansion of the Staff Senate. He is recommending that the expansion result in equal representation among groups in ratio.
a. (out of agenda order) Josh reported the President’s Council approval of the senate amendment to the bylaws to include a tie-breaker process. In the event of a tie, the full body Staff Senate will vote to break the tie.

b. Discussion ensued regarding the expansion of the senate membership. Ann Quade place on the table for consideration the motion to add three new positions on the committee until all remaining 1 year terms are replaced with new three year senators. Mike Fox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Executive Budget Committee –Josh attended the last meeting. The 2010-11 MSSU budget has been approved and implemented. There are no new developments to report at this time. Rob Yust and Linda Eis have expressed a willingness to address the Staff Senate whenever questions arise.

F. Special Events Committee – Committee members are: Josh Doak, and Laura Burch. Nothing to report.

Old Business:
A. Election Tie Breaker – addressed in Committee Reports, item D.

New Business:
A. Josh reminded the senate that the next term Executive Committee will be voted upon/appointed at the July meeting.
   a. He expressed a desire for the senate to consider term limits for the Executive Committee, i.e.: one year terms in the order of; President 1 year and out, President-Elect 1 year and into Presidency, and Secretary 1 year and out. The upward movement of the President-Elect will provide continuity of leadership attention to items placed on the table and ongoing projects from previous administration. In the event that the President-Elect does not wish to serve as President, an opportunity to decline will be provided at which time nominations for the position will be accepted.
      i. Motion on the table as stated above by Josh Doak, seconded by Erik Hilgendorf; 8 in favor – 1 abstention. Motion passed.
      ii. Abstention due to logistical error in proposal – if the president-elect has only one year of service on the senate, he/she will be unable to serve in as president. The motion has been revised to reflect that the president-elect must have a minimum of two years of service remaining on the Staff Senate.

B. Josh asked for consideration the removal of the mandated electronic brochure from the bylaws. It was determined that the Staff Senate website is updated regularly and the Campus Announcements provides a more timely dissemination of information to the constituency making the brochure redundant. Debbie Woodmansee made the motion to approve the bylaw amendment, Greg Killingsworth seconded the motion, and the motion was passed with a unanimous vote. Josh will present the motion to the President’s Council and will report on the outcome at the July meeting.

Comments and Announcements/Guest Input:
A. Josh opened the floor for comments.
   a. Erik Hilgendorf stated that the Faculty Senate has called for ideas to bring in additional revenues to the university; on the table for consideration is an increase in class size. Erik requested that the Staff Senate offer ideas in our respective areas of the campus. He stated that it the campus has done about all it can do in the way of cutting expenditures without slashing wages, employment, and benefits. There just does not seem to be an area left in which the campus might save money. The end result is that the institution still needs additional funds. Revenue generating mechanisms will help decrease the deficit.
   b. A senator shared that he heard Rob Yust say in the Open Budget Presentation, “We [MSSU] are going to be ‘okay’”. The senator expressed grave concern that MSSU is not aware that our [employees] personal budgets are not going to be “okay” with yet another fiscal year without a raise. The senator feels that
the Administration is neglecting our needs and is remiss in not addressing what MSSU plans to do for us as employees.

c. A senator presented a list of questions for the President’s Council:
   i. Why can’t we get the final results of the Evergreen Survey? We are being told that the results are still not available. We were given to understand that the work was done, the surveys completed and the analysis report has been written. So, why can’t we see the results?
   ii. What are the origins of funds used for providing furnishings, equipment, and other non-construction items for the new buildings on campus?
   iii. Why in these poor economic times are we [MSSU] spending money on renovations and moving existing departments to “new” facilities? The moves all represent drastic changes and the senator feels the employees of MSSU deserve an explanation.
   iv. Is the contractor for the Health Science building being charged late fees for missing the turnover deadline?

Greg Killingsworth placed motion was put on the table for the Staff Senators will collect, compile, and submit questions/concerns to Josh for delivery to Rob Yust. Ann Quade seconded the motion. Josh asked for an end of June deadline for the submissions as to allow Rob some time to study the items fully. The items will be addressed under Comments at the next meeting.

d. Josh reminded everyone of the Classified and Professional Staff picnic, June 15th from Noon to 1:00 PM. Rsvp: 659-5439.

   i. A senator commented upon hearing negative statements regarding administrators, supervisors, and department heads attending the picnic with their staff personnel. The collect from the giveaway items and participate in the meal. The classified and professional staff considers the picnic a campus picnic, not a celebration in their honor as billed. Josh will address the concern to the appropriate administrator to ascertain the reason for their attendance; for instance, if they have they been asked to attend by administration to show support.

Adjournment: Josh asked if there was any other business to bring to the table for the benefit of the order. There being none, Gregg Needham made the motion that the meeting be adjourned; Debbie Woodmansee seconded the motion; motion carried; meeting adjourned at 10:18 AM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 9:00 AM. Billingsly Student Center room 310 (Board room). The 2010-11 Executive Board will be elected and will take over leadership of the Staff Senate.

Respectfully submitted by:
Olive Talley