Staff Senate Minutes
Wednesday, June 13th, 2011
9:00 AM, Billingsly Board Room #310


Member(s) Absent / Excused: Ted Wright, Debbie Woodmansee and Leslie Willis

Determination of Quorum: Thirteen of Sixteen active members present; quorum established.

Call to Order: Erik Hilgendorf called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Approval of Minutes: Erik called for changes in the minutes. Michelle Arwood made motion to approve minutes as written. Gary Edwards seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

Administrative/Special Guest Comments: Mike Fontana-MSSU Foundation (notes under Foundation’s Tornado Relief Fund)

Committee Reports:
1. Communications Committee –No Report

2. Election Committee –Josh Doak shared the results from the May election. Josh Doak was reelected as a professional staff representative for three years; Natalie Bruce was elected to replace Leslie Wilis’ seat and term as professional staff representative; Bob Tessman was elected as classified staff representative for three year term; Gary Edwards was reelected as physical plant representative for three years and Judy Wilmoth and Melanie Epperson were elected as at-large senators for two year terms.

In addition to voting for new senators, the tobacco resolution was on the ballot. It asked if the Staff Senate supported reciprocating the same resolution that the Student Senate and student body amended, to gradually make the entire campus tobacco free. The question was passed by nearly a 3-1 vote.


4. Executive Budget Committee –No Report

Old Business:
1. Southern Service Champs Award- As reported in May, award proposal was accepted by President’s Council. The logistics of nomination and selection process will go to the Election Committee to formulate. The first SSCA will be given in September.

2. Personal Days Proposal- Still under review by President’s Council.

3. Secretarial Pool Proposal- Still under review by President’s Council.
New Business:

1. Smoking Resolution- With staff voting in favor of a campus-wide tobacco ban, questions on the next step was discussed. Since no formal resolution has been created, it was agreed that no formal vote from Staff Senate would take place till Student Senate created resolution. It was also agreed upon that communication from staff would be welcomed in regard to tobacco resolution to assist Staff Senate when formal vote would take place.

2. Appointing New Officers- With Greg Killingsworth transitioning from President-Elect to President next term year and Josh Doak’s term as secretary ending, the senate nominated and voted for each position. Michelle Arwood was nominated for the position of President-Elect. She accepted nomination and was unanimously approved to serve. For the position of secretary, Brenda McDaniel and voted in unanimously.

3. Foundation’s Tornado Emergency Relief Fund- Mike Fontana from the Missouri Southern Foundation addressed the senate about the fund set up to help faculty, staff and students who have been affected by tornado. Any person or organization wishing to donate can do so online or at the foundation office. One hundred percent of proceeds will go to faculty, staff and students in need. There’s currently no minimum or maximum that people applying will receive. Individuals can request an amount, but that will be no guarantees. People affected can apply on LioNet. The first review of applications will take place on June 30th with the plant to cut the first checks by July 7th. July 15th is the application deadline.

4. Staff Senate Committee Reorganization- In an effort to better organize and manage Staff Senate committees, the senate went through each committee to ensure that at least two active senator will be serving for the 2011-2012 year. Here are the senators appointed to each committee for the next term year:

   - Communications Committee- Josh Doak, Michelle Arwood and Brenda McDaniel
   - Election Committee- Josh Doak, Ann Quade, Gary Edwards, Hiedi Carlin and Mike Davies
   - Benefits Committee- Olive Talley, Greg Killingsworth, Natalie Bruce
   - Executive Budget Committee- Current seat is held by Staff Senate President. Committee won’t meet again till fall. Appointee will be assigned at that time.

In addition to committees, Melanie Epperson was appointed to serve as Staff Senate representative on the Shared Sick Leave Committee. She will be replacing Erik Hilgendorf.

5. Year Recap & Other Updates- Erik Hilgendorf shared that at the Board of Governor’s retreat, he solicited ideas for agenda items for the future. Ideas submitted revolved around having staff in-service days during senior assessment and fall break, allowing sabbatical for staff to increase knowledge in given field and creation of staff hall of fame to mirror the faculty hall of fame. Erik mentioned pulling leaders in the community like Dr. Fansworth, the President of Crowder College to do in-service on topic of collegiate leadership.

Comments and Announcements/Guest Input:

Erik opened the floor for comments and announcements:

Greg Killingsworth asked about the status of the distance learning fee waiver proposal for faculty and staff. Erik answered that proposal is in Rob’s hands

Adjournment: Erik asked if there was any other business to bring to the table. There being none, Brenda Hayes made the motion that the meeting be adjourned; Mike Davies seconded the motion; motion carried; meeting adjourned at 10:08 AM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 13th, 2011 at 9:00 AM. Billingsly Student Center room 310 (Board room).

Respectfully submitted by:
Josh Doak