Members Present: Matthew Crawford, Dana Booth, Samantha Kite, Allison Tanner, Bill Edmonds, David Betsch, Lisa Dent, Marge DeWolfe, Dan Lawless and Lisa Bernadyn.

Members Absent: Robyn Diven, Kevin Bowers, Melissa Todd, Bertha Fladger, Sandra Cannone, Lynn Silver and Judy Davis.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the January 9, 2015 minutes was made by Bill Edmonds and seconded by Matthew Crawford. The minutes were approved by the members.

Old Business

Follow up discussion on the following items:

- Suggestion: “I would like to suggest that the Staff Advisory Council discuss the option of the LGBTQ community being a protected status on our campus. There are many faculty, staff, and students who identify as LGBTQ; this is an important matter.”

  D. Lawless shared he has done research on our Peer and Aspirants Institutions. For all of our Peer Institutions they either have a formal policy or something on their website stating that sexual orientation is a protected class. Mr. Lawless shared he has researched a number of the Aspirants Institutions and they have the same policies. Mr. Lawless has also spoken with Tim Meacham, University Counsel and will provide references to Mr. Meacham regarding this research.

- A. Tanner shared with the council that she has been in contact with Aramark to find out options for Staff/Faculty meal plans. Ms. Tanner shared the commuter plan is the only one that is offered, with no discount.

  D. Lawless left a message for Jeff Stone, Food Service Director, asking to meet regarding this suggestion.

- “Athletics should do a promotion to trade in USC or Clemson shirt for a CCU ticket, to engage community pride.

  Establish a fund that faculty staff alumni etc. can help students with financial hardships get help in the form of money, food vouchers, etc.

  A large outside pool on campus, wave pool or other fun features as a great wow factor for prospective students, athletic recruits, rest relaxation for current students.”

  This suggestion will be divided into three parts: B. Fladger will take the first part of the suggestion. Ms. Fladger was not present at the meeting.

  D. Lawless reached out to Travis Overton, Dean of Students, regarding “Establish a fund that faculty staff alumni etc. can help students with financial hardships get help in the form of money, food vouchers, etc.” At this time, Mr. Lawless and Dean Overton have not been able to meet regarding this suggestion.

  D. Lawless will forwarded the last part of this suggestion to the President’s office, Admissions and Rein Mungo, Director of University Projects and Planning.
• “I recently parked in the large lot behind Kingston Hall for a meeting I had in that building. I was amazed at how many cars fill that lot, almost all the way to Hwy 501. I was lucky to find a spot about halfway. However, I had to count the aisles and light posts to be sure I found my car later! I spoke with others who do the same thing. Is there a possibility to add Section and Row signs to the light posts to help identify locations? (Similar to those in large retail parking lots) I think it would look welcoming, especially if the sign included Chauncey (as portrayed on this page with him pointing). I realize I would still need to remember what section I parked in -- but it would be better than facing a sea of cars with no clues. Thanks for considering this!”

S. Cannone was not present at the meeting but did forward her response regarding the suggestion. It was reported Ms. Cannone did speak to Bill Plate, Vice President for University Communication, and this is being looked at as part of the Wayfinding project on campus.

• “Here at the golf course we receive many inquiries about student community service. I am curious to see if there was ever a thought to have some sort of community service division on campus where a supervisor would seek out areas on campus needing attention maybe cleaning signs or picking up trash down the BLVD. Then have a time frame from say 9am to 2pm and students needing service would attend. This would serve as community service work for the students and also a beautifying process for campus. Just a thought.”

D. Betsch reported he spoke with Charles Johns, Director of Golf, to get more clarification on this suggestion. Mr. Johns shared he has a growing number of students coming to the golf course looking to perform community service hours. Most of the students have been sanctioned from the Conduct office and about 10% are just looking to volunteer. Mr. Johns doesn’t want to deter students from coming to the golf course because he does have projects they can work on. Mr. Johns shared there are times when he has a major influx of students and doesn’t know where to direct them.

D. Betsch then spoke with Jordan Smith, Coordinator of Civic Engagement and Orientation. Mr. Smith reported as it stands now there is no set days when students can report for community service hours. Mr. Smith did share the Dean of Students Office does post on campus opportunities. Mr. Smith does keep record of community partners and different opportunities in the neighborhood. For the interim, Mr. Smith advises that students be redirected back to the Dean of Students website or to Mr. Smith.

D. Betsch will also reach out to Travis Overton, Dean of Students Office and Whitney Comer, Executive Director of Student Life, and share this suggestion.

• “Please evaluate the use of parking spaces located next to the Scholar’s Academy for Scholar’s Faculty & Staff. Parking is at a premium in this area for other faculty/staff. It appears many spaces are empty throughout the day. A reassignment of several parking spaces as "faculty/staff" would benefit those working in close proximity and other parking areas nearby that see overflow from faculty/staff in this area. Thank you for your time.”

The Staff Advisory Council also discussed if it would be possible to turn the first row behind the Scholar’s Academy, parking row GG, into staff/faculty parking.

D. Lawless shared he was informed there is a Parking Committee that is looking at parking needs and future growth on campus. Mr. Lawless forwarded this suggestion to the Parking Committee and Staci Bowie, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, along with the recommendation of parking row GG. Ms. Bowie responded that ultimately this would not fall under the Parking Committee and for an immediate need she would be able to assist. Ms. Bowie shared this with Rein Mungo, Director University Projects and Planning, asking if this would be possible. Mr. Mungo responded they would be able to make changes to row GG once the weather permitted. It was noted, depending upon the
recommendations of the Parking Committee these spaces may be repurposed in the next year or two pending the President’s approval.

New Business

Suggestion Boxes: There was no suggestions in the suggestion boxes.

- Web Page Comments:

  Suggestion: “On January 13, 2015, Dr. DeCenzo emailed CCU employees to inform us that all slotted and time-limited employees are eligible for a .5% pay increase due to the 65% freshmen retention goal we reached. To be eligible for the increase, employees had to have been actively employed in either type of position as of June 15, 2014.

  As you know, July 1 usually marks the beginning of a new budget year for Coastal. On that date, many people begin their employment with CCU. There are also numerous current Coastal employees who may change departments within the University. Any current CCU employee, who was time-limited or slotted, on June 15, 2014, but moved positions within CCU on July 1, 2014, is not eligible for this pay increase as they are seen as a new hire among administration.

  As an employee at CCU for the past three years, I find this policy discouraging. Myself, and many other Coastal employees, aided in getting to that 65% retention rate. I do not feel that it is fair that because an internal job change occurred, that we are now ineligible for this pay increase.

  I believe that it would be in the administration’s best interest to reevaluate this policy and look into how it can benefit their current employees who may have changed positions within the university, or those who are planning on doing so in the future.”

  D. Lawless will forward this suggestion to Staci Bowie, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. D. Booth also forwarded this suggestion to Belinda Pope, Associate Director of Human Resource Operations and Kim Sherfesse, Director of Human Resources.

- “There has been a bike locked on the bike racks in front of Baxley Hall for a while. It doesn’t belong to anyone. I don’t know who to call to get it removed. It is unsightly for incoming perspective families.”

  The bike and lock have been removed and have been put into recovery.

- “Staff spends a great deal folding & stuffing letters - mass mailings. Could this be an opportunity for a student worker? Why can’t mail services offer to departments that mass mailings can be sent to mail services, folded, and stuffed? The university could buy one letter folder for mail services instead of buying one for each department. Mail services could create college work study positions and hire students to actually mail and stuff. This would provide other staff time to focus on other pressing matters.”

  D. Lawless will forwarded this suggestion to Laura Doerrbecker, Director of Postal Services and Staci Bowie, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. D. Lawless will also suggest using a mail house service vendor.

- “Our campus is growing quickly. This is great. To keep the humanity of the campus and its growth but still foster relationships. Once a month get together for faculty and staff.”

  D. Lawless will forwarded this suggestion to Lamonica Yates, Director Training and Development.
Additional Discussion items by members:

- The Council discussed the locations of the current suggestion boxes. It was determined with the Singleton building being remodeled the current box would need to be relocated. Baxley Hall will be the new location for the suggestion box since there is four offices located in this building. Over the next several months the Council will keep record of the suggestion to determine if any other boxes should be relocated.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Next Meeting: The next SAC meeting will be held February 19, 2015 in Edwards 101.