Staff Advisory Council
Minutes
Tuesday, June 25, 2013 @ 10:30am
SNGL 112

Members Present: Del Altman, Jillian Ernest, Jesse Gaither, Theresa Greene, Paula Holt, Meg Hurt, Harriette Louis, Brian Rothenberger, David Russell, Rodney Sessions, Frankie Weeks, and Sandy Williams

Members Absent: Jackie Andrews, Jody Davis, Matt Hogue, Caroline Madden, Vicky Rabon

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the June 4, 2013 minutes was made by D. Altman and seconded by J. Ernest. The minutes were approved by the members.

Old Business:

- We followed up on a suggestion that F. Weeks had from her office requesting that the University begin administrative evaluations for evaluating supervisors. V. Rabon was not in attendance at this meeting so we will defer to new Human Resources representative at next meeting.
- In follow-up to a suggestion that Teal Tuesday specials be offered at Cino Grill, we were told that they offer specials throughout the week, but would also give a 10% discount to anyone wearing teal on Tuesday. However, the discount cannot be combined with other specials (like the current 10% discount for faculty/staff).
- In follow-up to the suggestion given that something needs to be done about the fact that there is no sidewalk at the end entrance of the Procurement Building, Sandy Williams looked into the matter and found that the end door in question generally stays locked and is not used very often. There are currently no plans to make any updates to that area.

New Business:

- BJ Landrum, Associate University Counsel/Chief Compliance Officer, spoke with us in regards to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to ensure our compliance. We also discussed the fact that we will now be called the Staff Advisory Council (rather than the Staff Advisory Committee) as per our bylaws which were approved by President DeCenzo. She recommended that our meeting dates be posted on the public meeting site.
- We had a discussion in reference to our member selection process. We voted on leaving the membership as it had been in the past as far as being restricted to classified and unclassified non-teaching employees who have completed 12 months of employment with the university in a covered position. This was voted on with M. Hurt making the motion to accept and R. Sessions seconding. All members were in agreement. We also voted that the next line of the bylaws be changed to read: Staff members who meet eligibility criteria may volunteer or be nominated for openings within their functional areas. J. Ernest made a motion to accept with F. Weeks seconding. All members were in agreement.
- Certificates of Appreciation were given to members whose terms were expiring. We will have new members beginning with our next meeting.
Suggestion Boxes:

None

Web Page Comments:

We received the following suggestion:

“I would like for the University to consider raising the tuition technology fee by $50.00-$100.00 per semester for each student for both in-state and out-of-state students and setting aside these funds to pay for the cost incurred by accepting online payments. This would not increase tuition and would still cover the loss incurred by accepting credit cards online and face-to face across campus. It would be more customer friendly than “nickel and diming” our students with additional fees when they are trying to pay their fees. It would spread out the financial burden among all of our students. This would be a much more customer friendly way of earning the necessary revenue needed to cover the cost of accepting credit cards. Please consider bringing this before the Board of Trustees as an alternative to charging a convenience fee on each transaction.”

The following answer was given by Stacie Bowie, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer:

The decision to implement a convenience fee was made so as not to charge all students either through a set fee or by using part of tuition to pay for charges incurred by a few who choose to pay online via credit card. The credit card companies charge the University back for that service. The University is providing a free option online through e-check and tuition can be paid by check in person at the Office of Student Accounts. The University is in no way trying to nickel and dime students, only to charge what fees the University is being charged back to the individual students who choose to use a card. The technology fees charged to students are strictly used to provide technology infrastructure and services.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am with a motion from M. Hurt and seconded by R. Sessions.

Next Meeting: The next SAC meeting will be held July 16, 2013 in SNGL 112.