

The University of Southern Mississippi

Approved Staff Council Minutes

February 6, 2001

1.0 Call to Order

President Townsend called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

The following members were present: Victoria Adams, Cindy Burnett, Joan Brashears, Bradley Bridges, Kalin Butirich, Melissa Carpenter, Shannon Davis, Mile Giles, John Green, Lin Harper, John Hayman, Mary Ann Iverson, David Kinsey, Janeal McKee, Larry McMickle, Charlene McMillin, Connie Morgan, Polly Odom, Jessie Person, Pam Posey, Jan Roberts, Susan Sanders, Mary Sumrall, Tracy Townsend, Dick Vogel, Ruby Waits, and Sam Williams.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

There were two additions to the agenda. 6.1 Update Budget Book. 6.2 Proposals. Agenda adopted as corrected.

3.0 Call for Proxies

The following members were represented by proxy: Melissa Carpenter for Kim Busche, Jessie Person for Veda Spencer, John Green for Ronnie Williamson, and Ruby Waits for Faye Mallette.

The following members were absent without representation: Rusty Anderson and Terry Bethea.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

January minutes were approved as printed.

5.0 Officers' Reports

5.1 President's Report

Attached is President Townsend's report.

5.2 President-Elect's Report

Attached is Ms. Sumrall's report.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Budget Book Update

The budget book is currently not being updated. President Townsend will look into this problem.

6.2 Proposals

See attached report.

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Constitution and Bylaws — Pam Posey, Chair

No report.

7.2 Legislative — Charlene McMillin, Chair

No report.

7.3 Salaries and Benefits — Rusty Anderson, Chair

Committee member Bradley Bridges reported on two action items.

Concerning action

item #63 the committee recommended that there is a 90-day limitation on donated leave.

A motion was made, and motion carried. Action item #66 dealt with the University in

offering a compressed work schedule. Since flextime is already offered, the committee did not make any recommendations on this action item.

7.4 University Relations

No report. President Townsend is still seeking a replacement for Jennifer Blalock who was chair of this committee.

7.5 Technology and Training — Lin Harper, Chair

The Staff Council Web page will be up and running by the middle of this month.

7.6 Other Committee Reports.

Student Life Committee — Charlene McMillin, Chair

No report.

Master Plan Committee — Rusty Anderson, Chair

No report.

Parking Appeals — David Kinsey, Chair

No report.

Parking Task Force — Polly Odom, Chair

See attached report. Staff Council voted to have President Townsend ask the Transportation Department if there should be an increase in parking fees, and what will the increase be used for.

8.0 New Business

Pam Posey made a motion that the wording of proposal Item #10 be changed.

Joan Brashears seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The words "in lieu of taking a class" were added. Item #10 should now read "Staff Council proposes that University staff be allowed time off to work out in the Payne Center in lieu of taking a class."

Joan Brashears contacted Janet Braswell from the Hattiesburg American about the article in the paper Sunday. Joan felt very offended at the wording used referring to the administration as Dr. Fleming's and not the public's administration. Joan wanted to voice her concerns.

9.0 Announcements

9.1 Mardi Gras Rally

There will be a rally held in Jackson on February 27 to voice concerns over budget cuts. If you want to go, please let Ms. Sumrall know.

10.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Connie Morgan

Recording Secretary

2-6-01

PROPSALS

Item # 1

Staff Council proposes that charging be reinstated to University employees and the charges be deducted from employee's checks on a monthly or biweekly basis. This will allow staff members taking classes to charge books and supplies for their courses. This process will also allow staff and faculty to feel that the University and administration value them and trust them.

Changes: There will need to be a cap on the charges.

Motion made by Pam Posey, seconded by Susan Sanders. Motion carried.

Item # 2

Staff Council proposes that staff be allowed to borrow rented textbooks. Putting this charge on University employees' I.D. cards and allowing the money to be deducted upon return of the book will allow staff to continue pursuit of their degrees without financial hardship.

Changes: None

Motion made by Pam Posey, seconded by Victoria Adams. Motion carried.

-

Item # 3

Staff Council proposes that University employees be given ONE decal FREE and the second decal be of much higher cost to accommodate the free decal.

Changes: None

Motion made by Shannon Davis, seconded by Lin Harper. Motion denied.

--

Item # 4

Staff Council proposes that a larger discount be given to employees at University Food Services establishments. We believe that Food Services will benefit from more employees taking advantage of the service.

Changes: Lower minimum cost to \$25.00.

Motion made by Pam Posey, seconded by John Green. Motion denied.

Item # 5

Staff Council proposes that there be a larger discount for use of the Payne Center for University employees.

Changes: Some type of arrangement for Gulf Coast employees to use local facilities should be made.

Motion made by Joan Brashears, seconded by Victoria Adams. Motion carried.

Item # 6

Staff Council proposes that spouses of employees be allowed to take six hours of course work if the staff member is not taking advantage of the benefit.

Changes: None

Motion made by Janeal McKee, seconded by Shannon Davis. Motion carried.

Item # 7

Staff Council proposes that a discount be given to University employees who wish to take Continuing Education non-credit courses.

Changes: None

Motion made by Melissa Carpenter, seconded by Susan Sanders. Motion carried.

Item # 8

Staff Council proposes that all employees hired after the proposal is approved be subject to a graduated plan for dependent tuition scholarship. This benefit as currently written allows ALL University employees to receive a 50% scholarship for all dependent children effective the date of employment. We propose that new employees receive less of a discount and upon years of service increase this benefit.

Changes: None

Motion made by Shannon Davis, seconded by Susan Sanders.
Motion carried.

Item # 9

Staff Council proposes that University employees be given a
discount in University
Textbooks and the Bookstore.

Changes: None

Motion made by Mary Ann Iverson, seconded by Mary Sumrall.
Motion denied.

Item # 10

Staff Council proposes that University staff be allowed time off to
work out in the
Payne Center.

Changes: None

Motion made by John Green, seconded by Cindy Burnett. Motion
denied.

Item # 11

Staff Council proposes that the University match our 403(b)
contributions.

Changes: Proposal amended to state "that all University employees
be given flexibility
to choose a retirement option."

Motion made by Lin Harper, seconded by Joan Brashears. Motion passed.

A second motion was made by Janeal McKee and seconded by Lin Harper to amend this proposal to read as follows "Staff Council proposes that the University match our 403(b) contributions."

Motion denied.