

The University of Southern Mississippi

Approved Staff Council Minutes

March 6, 2001

1. Call to Order

President Townsend called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

The following members were present: Victoria Adams, Rusty Anderson, Terry Bethea, Cindy Burnett, Joan Brashears, Kalin Butirich, Melissa Carpenter, Shannon Davis, Mike Giles, Lin Harper, John Hayman, Mary Ann Iverson, Janeal McKee, Polly Odom, Pam Posey, Mary Sumrall, Tracy Townsend, Sam Williams, and Ronnie Williamson.

2.0 Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda was adopted as amended.

3.0 Call for Proxies

The following members were represented by proxy: Rusty Anderson for Bradley Bridges, Polly Odom for Kim Busche, Ronnie Williamson for John Green, Victoria Adams for David Kinsey, Shannon Davis for Charlene McMillin, Lin Harper for Connie Morgan, Mary Sumrall for Jan Roberts, Melissa Carpenter for Susan Sanders, and Tracy Townsend for Richard Vogel.

The following members were absent without representation: Jessie Person and Veda Spencer.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Minutes were approved as corrected.

5.0 Officers' Reports

5.1 President's Report — Tracy Townsend — No written report. President Townsend will send out report to members.

President Townsend passed out the Communications Committee Interim Report. She said that the report hasn't been approved and asked that the report not be distributed yet. She and Sherry Laughlin, President of Faculty Senate, feel that the report is not thorough and further investigation is necessary.

A summary of budget cuts was distributed. President Townsend will provide a written report.

5.2 President-elect's Report — Mary Sumrall.

Attached is Ms. Sumrall's report.

5.3 Assignment of Action Items — Mary Sumrall. One action item was submitted regarding childcare and medical reimbursements and will be given to the Salaries and Benefits Committee.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Proposals. The proposals were listed in the corrected minutes. The items that were not approved at the last meeting were removed from the proposals. They are now ready, and President Townsend will send them out tomorrow.

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Constitution & Bylaws — Pam Posey – No report

7.2 Legislative — Charlene McMillin — No report

7.3 Salaries & Benefits — Rusty Anderson. Rusty expressed thanks to Bradley Bridges who served as proxy for him and filled in for him at the last meeting as Rusty attended a career fair.

7.4 University Relations and Cultural Diversity — Kim Busche — No report. President Townsend noted that Kim has agreed to chair the University Relations and Cultural Diversity Committee. She is already on the committee and agreed to chair the committee when Jennifer resigned.

7.5 Technology & Training — Lin Harper. Lin mentioned that at last month's meeting she had stated that the web page would be up by

the 15th but met unavoidable delays. Hopefully, the information will be taken to the University proofreader Friday. After the proofreader approves it, it will be taken to the Web Presence Council next week. The plan is to have the web site up the following week. It will have all the minutes from the current year. There have been some requests for distribution of electronic copies of minutes up to the month of March to be placed on the listserv. That will be done, and the minutes will be in Word format. President Townsend stated that there are about 300 people on the listserv, and she keeps getting emails asking if the minutes will be posted to the listserv. She mentioned, for those unaware, that Connie Morgan had major surgery last Monday and will be out for a couple of months. Virginia Kittrell is present today filling in for her, and President Townsend expressed thanks for doing so.

7.6 Other Committee Reports

*Parking Appeals — David Kinsey – No report

*Parking Task Force — Polly Odom. The committee went over the final parking regulations for the year 2001–2002. They were presented to Dr. Gilbert for her to present to cabinet. That has not happened yet. There will be no parking fee increase. Everyone will pay a parking fee. For those people who do not park a vehicle on campus, they will have to sign a form stating that they will not be parking on campus in order to get a refund.

* Election Committee — Rusty Anderson. The first mailing for interest in serving on Staff Council is out. March 9 is the deadline for returning those forms. Rusty asked members to encourage colleagues in their areas to fill the form out and return it by March 9. The committee will meet next week to go over the returned forms and get a list of those who have expressed an interest in running for Staff Council. The ballots will be put together and mailed out probably week after next. This year, there are only seven people rotating off Staff Council, so it will be a tough year for elections.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Staff Council Award. Forms went out in the packet. The Staff Council Award does not have to be a Staff Council member. The

recipient is a staff person who has excelled in everything that they do. If you have someone in mind, please fill out the form and send it back or bring back to the May meeting. The President-elect, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary will compile the list. Only the Recording Secretary will know who the winner is. It is a big honor to receive this award, so please be thinking about nominating someone.

9.0 Announcements

It's time to nominate people for Staff Excellence Awards. Recipients will receive a monetary award as well. Rusty mentioned that a message was sent to Directors and departmental heads, which stated that everyone would not receive a packet this year because of the budget cuts. If you want instructions on how to nominate someone, you can go to the Human Resources web site and download it and print it out.

10.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Virginia Kittrell for Connie Morgan

3/13/01