

Staff Council Minutes
The University of Southern Mississippi
January 9, 2007

1.0 Call to Order

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

The following members were present: John Burks, Melissa Carpenter, Wynde Fitts, Keith Long, Pam Posey, Melissa Coker, Linda Davis, John Hayman, April Jordan, Tina Griffin, Cory Williams, Arlin Steen, Mandy Tilley, Amy Thornton, Mary Virgil, Leigh Allison Iovino, and Shane Coghlan.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

2.1 We added 9.4 President's Council replacement to the agenda.

2.2 The agenda was accepted with minor revisions

3.0 Call for Proxies

Mandy Tilley for Tracey Robinson

Cory Williams for Michelle Fleming

Shane Coghlan for Scott Carr

Melissa Carpenter for Vassie Owens

April Jordan for Sharon Hughes

Amy Thornton for Susan Bone

Tina Griffin for Jin Joo McClendon

Linda Davis for Tyia Brooks

4.0 Approval of Minutes

4.1 November still pending approval

4.2 No December meeting minutes at this time

5.0 Officer's Reports

5.1 President's Report- Wynde asked Susan Bone's committee to address the smoking issue at the Powerhouse Courtyard. Mini Sessions have increased to 50 classes and more than 900 students for the semester. We celebrated the GMAC bowl win in Mobile. Registration for spring is up 12 percent and this consists of new and transfer students. Coast campus College of Business will be moving into a new building soon. Our SACS report came back with no corrections. Research dollars are up to \$15.8 million to date. Budget building will begin at the end of January. Joe Morgan will release a schedule soon. The Foundation endowment has reached \$50 million and this is the largest in the history of the institution.

- 5.2 President-Elect report - John Hayman indicated that Faculty Senate did not meet and there was no IHL report.
- 5.3 Secretary - Meeting minutes will be sent to Wynde and executive committee for review before going to the University proofreader. When they are returned from the proofreader they will then be distributed to the council for review. Concluding the council approval they will be posted to the Staff Council web site.
- 5.4 Secretary Elect - Melissa Carpenter announced Relay for Life on April 20 and wanted to know if anyone would be interested in forming a team. She also announced the March of Dimes Walk America - April 14. For more information about both events, you can contact Melissa at (601) 266 4403.
- 6.0 Unfinished Business
 - 6.1 Christmas reception had a few setbacks, but everyone had a lot of fun. Thanks to Tracey, Shane and Scott for all of their hard work on the decorations. We did not have any expenses for the reception.
 - 6.2 The fire family project was a success and we wanted to thank Mandy Tilley and Gene Fitts for delivering the food to the coast.
 - 6.3 March meeting will be held on March 6 so please let you superior know you will be out. We are trying to plan something for the campus and staff members "pick me up." If you need help with transportation please contact Wynde. Tina Griffin offered assistance as well. Melissa Carpenter will send out an announcement to listserv about service projects.
- 7.0 Standing Committee Reports:
 - 7.1 Constitution and Bylaws - Keith Long will present written recommendation at the February meeting. He will send constitution and bylaws out to see if anyone else has any recommendations. Pam Posey will look through some of her material for a digital copy of the current constitution and bylaws.
 - 7.2 Legislative Committee - No report
 - 7.3 Salaries and Benefit - Mandy Tilley is getting married on April 21. She is hoping to get in touch with Human Resources regarding pending issues. Mandy indicated that the committee may or may not meet this month. They are hoping to have a rough draft of the new employee information for the February meeting.
 - 7.4 University Relations and Cultural Diversity - No report
 - 7.5 Technology and Training - No report
- 8.0 Liaison to University committee reports:
 - 8.1 Department of Parking Management - No meeting in December
 - 8.2 President's Council - No report
 - 8.3 Wellness Council - No report

- 8.4 IT advisory Board - No report
- 8.5 Master Facility Planning - No report
- 9.0 New Business
 - 9.1 Staff Excellence Awards - Wynde has been working with Russ Willis to bring back these awards. To her knowledge and research the funds were paid from the Jesse Morrison fund. It has not been given out for the last two years. Wynde is meeting with Tim Ryan and Russ Willis to develop a way we can bring the awards back. She will give an update at the February meeting.
 - 9.2 Filling positions on the Council - There is one Gulf Coast position and three skilled craft positions open on the council. How can we address the needs for the coast campus? One suggestion is to use a video conference room so more coast people can attend. Amy Thornton will check and see if it is available. We still have a skilled craft member on the council but they will need to be approached about returning to complete their term. This matter will need to be discussed at the next meeting.
 - 9.3 Issues and Concerns - None at this time
 - 9.4 President's Council - Wynde Fitts opened the floor for volunteers to fill the expired seat of Melissa Carpenter on the President's Council. Tina Griffin volunteered to take the position. Her first meeting will be in February. Melissa will e-mail Dr. Exline to add Tina Griffin as the new representative for Staff Council.
- 10.0 Announcements
 - 10.1 Executive meeting will be held on January 31, 2007, at 8:15 a.m. in Starbucks
 - 10.2 Melissa Carpenter announced "Go Red for Women" on February 2. Contact Melissa in Student Activities at 601 266 4403.
 - 10.3 Russ Willis will be our speaker at our February 6 meeting. Melissa Carpenter will contact Jana Bryant to post this on the Southern Miss Web site.
 - 10.4 Jana Bryant is getting the "Eagle Eye" out on February 13. If you would like something in it, please contact her. She is looking for more material about staff members for upcoming issues. She can be reached at jana.bryant@usm.edu

Meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

I would like to thank April Jordan for her assistance with meeting minutes in January.