

***** PROPOSED MINUTES *****

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Proposed Staff Council Minutes

August 3, 1999

A pilot 1999 Employee Opinion Survey was distributed to the Council by Past President Debby Hill prior to the meeting. Past President Hill explained the process of the survey. The Council participated by completing the survey and was requested to make suggestions and/or comments regarding wording of questions and content.

Agenda Highlights

- * Assignment of Action Items
- * Faculty/Staff Tuition Benefit

1.0 Call to Order

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

The following members were present: Victoria Adams, Terry Bethea, Ann Billings, Patricia Brewer, Kalin Butirich, Tommy Dye, Mike Giles, Kim Henson, Marsha Hinton, Becky Holder, Susan King, Virginia Kittrell, Regina Knight, Patricia Linton, James Mackabee, Janeal McKee, Larry McMickle, Charlene McMillin, Connie Morgan, Cheryl Mowdy, Jessie Person, Susan Sanders, Veda Spencer, Jennifer Spring, Mary Sumrall, Sam Thomas, Tracy Townsend, Dick Vogel, Ruby Waits, Betty White, and Ronnie Williamson.

The following member was represented by proxy: Ray Scott by Becky Holder.

2.0 Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda was approved as printed.

3.0 Call for Proxies

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Minutes were approved as printed.

5.0 Officers= Reports

5.1 President=s Report

President Thomas submitted a written report on his July Activities/Meetings.

*July 6 – President=s brown–bag luncheon. President Fleming started off the meeting by discussing the following areas. He mentioned that we are exploring the idea of expanding the benefits of the cafeteria plan. The Gulf Coast situation continues to be a challenge. January 2000 would probably be the earliest that the ban on freshman and sophomore enrollment would be lifted, but it may be fall 2000. The athletic field house project is the highest building priority at this point. A lot of money has been spent on technology lately, but it was something that must be done. Joe Paul gave an update on child care. He chaired a task force, and their report was submitted in May. He said the need for child care is real, and any child care provided must be done at a high standard. The long–term plan is to build a new child care center with an estimated budget of \$750,000.

*July 12 – Cabinet. Bucky Wesley, Kim Moistner–Bartlett, and Kara Craig made a presentation on the Freshman Year Experience. This program is set up to enhance the college environment for freshman and is not a remedial course. Commencement will be held on August 6, 1999, and the speakers will be Mayor Ed Morgan at 2:30 and Tim Floyd, Chicago Bulls head coach, at 6:00.

*July 14 – IHL Board Meeting. The following projects were approved: Fairchild Complex – \$2,500,000 – approved design development and will begin construction document phase; Hub–Library Plaza – contract award approved at cost of \$838,322; College for International and Continuing Education – \$5,600,000 – approved request to contract for professional design services; Softball Field – \$250,000 – approved request to proceed with project; Main

Network Switch – \$10,000,000 over 5 years – approved request to proceed.

*July 16 – MASCO meeting at Mississippi Valley State University. A handout of the amended by-laws was distributed to all individuals in attendance. The changes in the by-laws are as follows: installation of officers will take place in September of each year, and meetings will be held every other month – January, March, May, July, September, and November. An agenda of topics was introduced for the next year of MASCO meetings. This idea was well received by the members. The President asked the members to check with our council members to see if they thought using the IVN during MASCO meetings would be well received. Debby Hill discussed the fringe benefit resolution that USM Staff Council passed last month. There was a concern over the funding of such a proposal. The members were for the proposal for the most part, but skepticism was expressed over funding and acceptance by the administration on their campuses.

5.2 President-Elect's Report – Tracy Townsend

The search committee for the position of Executive Assistant to the President has narrowed the number of candidates from ten to five. One candidate, Mr. Anthony Harris, was interviewed August 2.

5.3 – Assignment of Action Items – Tracy Townsend

Assignments were as follows:

Parking Task Force

* # 51 A question was brought forth as to why only one ticket per day could be issued to people parking illegally.

Salaries and Benefits Committee

* # 52 An inquiry was made about using three days of holiday leave rather than using three days of sick leave for an employee who has a death of an immediate family member.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Committee Assignments

A list of committee assignments was included in the council packet. Committees were encouraged to meet briefly after the meeting.

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Constitution & Bylaws –Carolyn Cawthon – No report

7.2 Legislative – Charlene McMillin – No report

7.3 Salaries & Benefits – Marsh Hinton – No report

7.4 University Relations and Cultural Diversity – Mary Sumrall – No report

7.5 Technology & Training – Regina Knight – No report

7.6 Other Committee Reports

*Parking Appeals – Carolyn Cawthon – No report

*Parking Task Force – Terry Bethea – No report

8.0 New Business

FACULTY/STAFF TUITION BENEFIT

Faculty Senate has prepared two resolutions regarding full faculty/staff tuition benefit. One resolution requests that full tuition benefits be restored to USM faculty and staff, and their qualified dependents. The other resolution requests that USM faculty and staff, and their qualified dependents be allowed tuition benefits to be used at any of the eight institutions under the governance of the College Board. Our goal is to jointly support these resolutions; therefore, the Salaries and Benefits Committee will be preparing resolutions from the council for our approval next month. These resolutions will require approval from IHL.

STAFF COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP LISTSERV

Regina Knight will be setting up a listserv for Staff Council members. She will notify us when it is ready.

9.0 Announcements

- * President Thomas distributed an e-mail list of council members. Corrections were made.
- * The speaker for the September meeting will be the new athletic director, Mr. Richard Giannini.
- * President Thomas recommended that we only have speakers every other month because of the length of meetings. Council concurred.
- * A question was brought forth regarding tailgating, and President Thomas stated that we would not participate in tailgating this year. Last year, Staff Council participated with the Credit Union; however, the Credit Union will not be tailgating this year because of funding.
- * The November council meeting is scheduled to be held at Stennis Space Center. A tour may be possible.

10.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Virginia Kittrell, Recording Secretary

8/5/99 vk

Since the discussion regarding tailgating at home football games, Jan Layman has contacted Staff Council to inform us that there will be a Credit Union/Staff Council tent.