

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Proposed Staff Council Minutes

May 2, 2000
Call to Order

1.0 President Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

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

The following members were absent without representation: Regina Knight and Jessie Person.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

A minor change was made to the minutes. Susan King made a motion to approve the minutes. Mary Sumrall seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as amended.

5.0 Officers' Reports

5.1 President's Report – Sam Thomas

*April 24 – Cabinet. At this point, there was no more information on the budgets except that position audits, degree completions, and promotions would be paid this upcoming year. The amount for these is approximately \$180,000 for the year. Dormitory costs will increase \$150 a semester, and meal plans will increase \$25 a semester. The amount of any tuition increase may be decided in May. Governor Musgrove will be the commencement speaker on May 12, at the 2:30 p.m. ceremony, and Senator Trent Lott will be the speaker at 6:30 p.m. Robert Bass will be the speaker at the Gulf Coast commencement on May 13. The Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day has been canceled, but the Appreciation Day Committee is meeting this week to decide on alternatives. The cost of last year's Appreciation Day was approximately \$50,000.

*May 1 – Expanded Cabinet. The University is looking into the idea of forming an Athletic Foundation. This foundation would be separate from the current USM Foundation. The 100,000th graduate from USM will be recognized during the commencement exercises on May 12. There will be an Appreciation Day Lunch for all faculty and staff on May 19, from 11:00 to 2:00, on the lawn between Bennett Auditorium and the Aubrey K. Lucas Administration Building. Budget information is still preliminary at this point. Further details will be presented when they are finalized.

5.2 President-elect's Report – Tracy Townsend. President-elect Townsend thanked Connie Morgan and the Election Committee for their hard work. All of the following persons elected have agreed to serve and have been invited to the June meeting: Service Maintenance – Kim Busche and David Kinsey; Executive/Managerial – Rusty Anderson; Clerical – Joan Brashears, Melissa Carpenter, Shannon Davis, Polly Odom, and Jan Roberts; Professional – Bradley Bridges, Lin Harper, John Hayman, Mary Ann Iverson, Pam Posey, and Sam Williams; Gulf Coast – Jennifer Blalock; IMS – Faye Mallette; Technical – unable to contact.

President Thomas commented that some people probably think that Polly is on the council; however, she has served as Parliamentarian and has been present at each meeting voluntarily. Congratulations to all elected.

5.3 Assignment of Action Items – Tracy Townsend. One action item was received; however, President-elect Townsend had not had an opportunity to discuss it with the Executive Council. Therefore, it will be distributed to the proper committee next month.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Staff Council Award. Ballots were distributed and turned back in for the Outstanding Staff Member Award. The winner will remain anonymous until the luncheon at the President's house next month.

6.2 MASCO meeting May 11. USM will host the MASCO meeting on May 11, at the Payne Center Conference Room at 10:00. President Thomas asked who was planning to attend for a headcount for meals. Everyone is welcome. Ben Bufkin, Personnel Director of Delta State, is the President of MASCO. President Thomas was unsure of whom the speaker will be. Normal business will be conducted after lunch. Twelve people planned to attend the meeting. President Thomas asked for assistance in directing and greeting visitors upon arrival. Mike Giles volunteered.

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Constitution & Bylaws – Carolyn Cawthon – No report

President Thomas asked Ruby for nomenclature on identifying GCRL and IMS in the constitution. She commented that her representation should be identified as Gulf Coast Research Lab, and Kalin's representation should be identified as Stennis. President Thomas wanted to propose that this change be tabled until the new council is in place in July or August. The new Constitution & Bylaws Committee will propose this change.

7.2 Legislative – Charlene McMillin. Legislative Day will be held June 2, from 10:00 to 12:00. Information is forthcoming. President

Thomas asked council members to attend this very important meeting. He asked members to invite others to attend also. Local legislators are available to answer questions and concerns and give insight to issues going on in the legislature.

7.3 Salaries & Benefits – Marsha 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

*Election Committee – Connie Morgan. President Thomas thanked Connie Morgan, her committee, and other volunteers for their hard work in getting the ballots together.

*Parking Appeals – Carolyn Cawthon – No report

*Parking Task Force – Mike Giles. The last committee meeting was held on March 14. There was no meeting in April; therefore, the action items presented will be dealt with May 9. As of March 2000, there have been 25,000 tickets written. Over 11,000 permits have been sold across campus. Dr. Gilbert is moving parking fine money from the scholarship fund to a parking fund to help fund parking improvements. Current policy allows for seven tickets before a vehicle is towed. The committee will revisit the issue this summer. The committee has proposed to double the fines with the first violation being \$20 and subsequently, \$40. If this proposal passes, it will go into effect at the beginning of the fall semester. There are a number of construction projects going on. Ronnie Shows, who sits on the Transportation Committee, has introduced a bill providing \$3 million toward our \$7 million parking garage structure. The balance of those funds will come from registration fees and parking garage fees. The bill has been introduced but not passed yet. The plaza is about 45% complete. The target date for the first phase is around the end of May. Completion of the project is anticipated to be ready for the beginning of the fall semester.

Dick Vogel expressed concern regarding the issue of increasing fines. Parking on campus is a big issue, and he feels that increasing the fines will further alienate the young alumni. Dick feels that with the parking problems, increasing the fines will not solve the problem. Mike Giles asked Dick for suggestions to take back to the parking committee. President Thomas asked Mike about the goal of increasing the fines. Mike responded by saying that it is to help deter violators and to assist with the parking fund. Dick voiced his

concern that in trying to raise money through alumni, their greatest negativity while students at USM was the parking issue. In related matters, Patricia Brewer asked Mike if the parking between JST, Walker Science, and the Union would ever be opened back up to parking when the construction is complete. He was unsure at this point.

8.0 New Business – None

9.0 Announcements

9.1 End-of-year reports. President Thomas asked the committee chairs to provide a written end-of-the-year report and to present it at the June meeting.

2 June meeting. The June meeting will not be held at the Payne

Center, as previously scheduled. It will be held at the Liberal Arts Building, Room 209, Dean's Conference Room. Time of meeting remains at 10:00 a.m. The reason for the change is because of Preview. Sally Campbell, with the Payne Center, notified President Thomas of the change and found an alternative location for the meeting. He thanked her for going to the trouble of doing so. Two vans have been scheduled through Motor Pool for transportation from USM to the President's house for lunch and back.

10.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Virginia Kittrell, Recording Secretary

5/9/00 vk