

The University of Memphis
Staff Senate Minutes – Friday, September 14, 2007
Panhellenic Ballroom
9:30 A.M

Senators Present: Beasley, Sharon; Brock, Ann; Buchner, Melissa; Busby, Hugh; Cade, Paul; Colburn, Dorothy; Cohn, Susan; Conway, Jerry; Dimond, Joellen; Duhart, Senese; Fitzgerald, Peggy; Franklin, Dean; Guffin, Sharon; Harbin, Bill; Horton, Melvin; Hudson, James; Johnson, Jesse; McAfee, Kimberly; McCoy, Becky; Merritt, Rebecca; Montague, Jim; Muldrow, Vanessa; Murley, Heather; Newman, Karen; Scott, Belinda; Settles, Yulonda; Sirignano, Eric; Taylor-Strowder, Ora; Tignor, Jonathan; Walsh, Elaine; Wilson, Kimberly; Wilson, Faye; Wilson, Deborah; Woemmel, Clay.

Senators Absent (excused): Babb, Susan; Bell, Karen; Brown, Annette; George, Elise; Harrison-Tyson, April; Lee, Bernadette; Moses, Shelia; O'Bryan, Kathy; Pinson, Frances; Turner, Debra.

Senators Absent (unexcused): Bekis, Barbara; Cowles, Angelina; Dillon, Chloristine; Elliotte, William;

The August meeting of the Staff Senate was held in the Panhellenic Ballroom with 34 senators present, and approximately six guests.

President Fitzgerald opened the meeting with the introduction of Dr. Shirley Raines. She stated that Dr. Raines would be our guest speaker at the meeting; therefore we would handle senate business after the presentation.

Dr. Shirley Raines presented to the senate a presentation on "Vision to Reality." She shared her vision for The University of Memphis to be recognized as one of the great metropolitan research universities by 2012. She further outlined the framework in order to get there. She stated that she is having all the deans and directors read a very inspiring and motivating book to help achieve this goal. The book is Jim Collins' *Good to Great in the Social Sector* (2005). The book outlines "Big Hairy Audacious Goals," as the author calls them—innovative ways to achieve the University's goals. Dr. Raines thinks that we are going to make the leap from good to great by continuing the great works that various divisions are already doing by working together all over campus. She encouraged the senate to spread the word that The University of Memphis is "on the move," and she thanked all senators for serving on the Staff Senate. She closed her presentation by having senators in attendance introduce themselves and then presented them with a University of Memphis shield.

Executive Committee Reports

President's Report: President Fitzgerald announced that the Executive Committee met with Dr. Raines on August 24, 2007. She stated that the senate had the full support of the President's office. She went over some of the things that were covered in that meeting. She also reported that she and Vice President Woemmel met with Ruthie Bassford on September 12, 2007, and they were offered three options to use as Staff Senate office space. She and the Executive Committee are still trying to find adequate workspace. She

The University of Memphis
Staff Senate Minutes – Friday, September 14, 2007
Panhellenic Ballroom
9:30 A.M

will keep the senate updated on their progress as information becomes available, as it changes daily. She also reported that the Staff Senate has officially been given a mailbox and key, located in the Administrative building.

Vice President's Financial Report: Due to time constraints, we were unable to get a report from Senator Woemmel.

Secretary's Report: No report due to Senator Babb's excused absence.

Membership Committee: Due to the recent resignation of Senator Prahalathan, Senator Settles will conduct a run-off election for Cluster L by the end of September.

Public Relations: Due to time constraints, we were unable get a report from Senator Harbin.

Website: No report due to Senator Turner's excused absence.

University-Wide Committees

Due to time constrains we were unable to hear a report from any of the committees.

Old Business: The on-going discussion of pins for the Staff Senate were brought up again by President Fitzgerald. She stated that she is willing to forgo the plan of purchasing pins specifically for the senate. She stated that she is "proud to wear the original pin with the shield that President Raines wears." If other senators have any objections they should let her know, and then bring it before the senate.

New Business: President Fitzgerald also announced that the President's office wanted two people from the Staff Senate to work on the Sustainability Committee. Three volunteered and we put them to a vote; the motion passed to elect Senator Eric Sirignano and Senator Joellen Dimond to serve on that committee. The motion passed with no opposition.

President Fitzgerald reiterated to all the senators to be more visible to our constituents, and to encourage their concerns, suggestions, and ideas. She continued to encourage the presence of Staff Senate on campus.

With no other business, President Fitzgerald adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Yulonda Settles, Staff Senate Membership Committee on behalf of Senator Babb.