

STAFF SENATE MINUTES
APRIL 17, 2008

Present: Susan Babb; Barbara Bekis; Karen Bell; Ann Brock; Melissa Buchner; Hugh Busby; Paul Cade; Dorothy Colburn; Susan Cohn; Senese Duhart; Bill Elliotte; Peggy Fitzgerald; Sharon Guffin; Bill Harbin; Melvin Horton; James Hudson; Lenetha Hunt; Mary Johnson; Kim McAfee; Becky McCoy; James Montague; Kathy O'Bryan; Belinda Scott; Eric Sirignano; Ora Taylor-Strowder; Debra Turner; Kimberly Wilson; Faye Wilson; Clay Woemmel.

Excused: Sharon Beasley; Chloristine Dillon; Joellen Dimond; Dean Franklin; Elise George; Lavaire Lockhart; Heather Murley; Sherri Schwartz; Jonathan Tignor; Elaine Walsh; Deborah Wilson.

Unexcused: Angelina Cowles; Jesse Johnson; Bernadette Lee; Karen Newman.

The meeting was called to order by President Fitzgerald with 29 senators present. A motion was made by Senator Horton to approve the March Minutes as submitted and seconded by Senator Hudson.

Senator Guffin introduced the guest speaker, Sarah Adair, from the Office of Government Relations. Ms. Adair spoke of the responsibilities of her office – development of funding opportunities available at the local, state, federal levels; lines of communication within the university to the local, state, & federal levels. She also spoke on the Tennessee State Employees Association and will contact that office to inquire about someone coming to speak at a future Senate meeting.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Finance Report – Senator Woemmel reported no expenditures for the month.

University Wide Committees

Campus Safety/Security – No Report

Facilities/Services – No Report

Campus Safety Advisory Group – No Report

Fee Refund/Appeals – Senator Horton reported a meeting is scheduled for next week.

Food Services – Senator Duhart will begin attending the meetings to replace Senator Settles. A meeting is scheduled for today.

Public Records – No Report

Space Planning – No Report
Traffic/Parking – No Report
First Friday – The meeting was cancelled.
Policy Review – Senator Woemmel announced that the committee is reviewing the policy for awarding posthumous degrees for consistency with TBR policy. The President would have the authority to make exceptions.
Sustainability Committee – No Report
First Year Experience – No Report

Other Committees

Election Committee – Senator Beasley will take over the committee due to Senator Senator Settles' resignation from the Staff Senate.
Issues Committee – No Report
Legislative Committee – No Report
By-Laws Committee – The committee is reviewing handling the election of Staff Senate officers differently; possibly presenting a slate of officers to the Senate members.

Old Business

Senator Harbin was asked to update the Senate on plans for Celebration of Staff Day. The “save the date” invitation will go out via email next week; the food menu has been wrapped up and will be faxed to Tiger Catering – pizza, cake, cookies. Volunteers will be signed up today to help with managing the food lines, awarding prizes, cleanup. Three departments have confirmed that they will set up a display table; music will be provided from noon until 3:00 p.m. by a jazz trio from the UofM School of Music. The Public Relations Committee will look into name tags for volunteers or possibly having them wear a UofM t-shirt.

New Business

Because Celebration of Staff Day is the same date as our usual Senate meeting date, President Fitzgerald suggested that the meeting be moved to the week before – Thursday, May 8. All members agreed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Babb
Secretary, Staff Senate

