

## Staff Senate Meeting

February 21, 2008

**Present:** Clay Woemmel, Hugh Busby, Debra Turner, Jim Montagu, Deborah Wilson, Melvin Horton, Ora Taylor-Strowder, Melissa Buchner, Barbara Bekis, Susan Cohn, Lavaire Lockhart, Ann Brock, Jim Lippy, Shelia Moser, Mary Johnson, Becky McCoy, Paul Cade, Chloristine Dillon, Sharon Guffin, Dorothy Colburn, James Hudson, Eric Sirignano, Peggy Fitzgerald, Bill Harbin, Kathy O'Bryan, Faye Wilson, Joellen Dimond, Sherri Schwartz, Heather Murley, Belinda Scott

Excused & Unexcused absences will be posted on the March minutes.

**Jim Lippy** was introduced as the University of Memphis Retiree Association (UMRA) representative

Minutes from previous meeting were approved (Sharon Guffin, Melvin Horton)

### **President's Report:**

Serving as Staff Senate representative on the **Campus Stadium Focus Group** is Melvin Horton. Senator Horton summarized the discussion at their last meeting. There were 7 locations and no proposed budget yet. Senator Horton will scan copies of the proposed maps/locations and forward to Staff Senate President Peggy Fitzgerald who will then forward to Staff Senate. Next meeting for the Focus Group is before March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**David Cox**, Assistant to President Raines requested a Staff Senate representative on the **Recruitment, Retention and Research Committee**. Senator Dean Franklin (Provost office) will be the Staff Senate representative. The committee will meet a couple of times and submit their ideas/proposals to the strategic planning committee.

Proposal from a staff member for Staff Senate to sponsor a Tai Chi program was introduced by **President Fitzgerald**. More information is needed to make this decision.

Space in 153 Administration Building was approved as Staff Senate office. The work has been started including approval of carpet and drywall over the window.

### **UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES REPORTS**

**Election Committee** – no reports

**Website** – no reports

**Bylaws Committee** – no report

**Campus Safety and Security Committee** – no report

**Faculty/Staff Safety Advisory Group** – no report

**Facilities** - no report

**Fees/Refunds** - no report

**First Year** - no report

**Food Services** - no report

**Honorary Degree** - no report

**Traffic and Parking** - no report

**Public Records** - no report

**Space Planning** - no report

**Issues and Review Committee** – Senator Bekis reported that one new request has been submitted, but the committee has not met.

**Policy Review Board** - Senator Woemmel reported that the Policy Review Board has met 2 times. No new policies have been created, only revision of current University of Memphis policies.

**Sustainability Committee** – a new proposal was brought up at the last meeting for all university appliances to be star rated. No other new information.

**First Friday Forum Committee** – Senator Deborah Wilson reported that Bob Eoff from Marketing was at the February First Friday Forum. He spoke of new marketing techniques that include videos with blues/jazzy ‘Tiger Fight Song’ playing in background, possibly being aired on MTV and in small towns.

**Public Relations Committee** – Senator William Harbin reported on the upcoming Annual Staff Celebration. Date of event will be Thursday, May 15. This year, the SS is coordinating the event with the Human Resource Awards program. The awards will begin at 10 and end about 11:30. The Staff Senate event (previously Staff Appreciation Day) will begin at 11:30 and continue until 2:30. Both events will take place in Rose Theatre lobby and side room.

Human Resources is not contributing any financial support for the event. However, they can help with marketing of the event.

It was suggested that a Staff Talent Show be held (open to all staff members). Senator Horton is also checking into the School of Music to perform on that day.

The food for the event has not been selected but it will most likely be barbeque or pizza.

It was suggested that different departments, colleges and/or offices be contacted to set up tables on that day. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Volunteers are needed to help secure door prizes and coordinate the event. Contact Bill Harbin to volunteer at [wharbin@memphis.edu](mailto:wharbin@memphis.edu)

Senator Sharon Guffin encouraged all Staff Senate members to join the Tennessee Association Employee Association. She gave an update on 3 legislative (1. Increase funding for Tennessee employee salaries, 2. Increase the cap on retirement annual living increases, and 3. Choose to have your phone/address taken from all public directories.)

Meeting was adjourned at 10:27am

Debra Turner