

STAFF SENATE MINUTES

September 18, 2008

Present: Sandy Barksdale; Karen Bell; Ann Brock; Donald Busby; Paul Cade; Susan Cohn; Ladonnal Curry; Carmen Davis; Chloristine Dillon; Senese Duhart; John Farrell; Brad Frewin; Peggy Fitzgerald; Sharon Guffin; Linda Hall; James Hudson; Virginia Huss; Jesse Johnson; Mary Johnson; Temeka Jones; Judith Knight; Kimberly McAfee; Becky McCoy; James Montague; Heather Murley; Karen Newman; Kathryn O'Bryan; Julia Rhodes; Belinda Scott; Sherri Stephens; Ora Taylor-Strowder; Jonathan Tignor; Debra Turner; Kimberly Wilson; Geraldine Young-Taylor.

Excused: Susan Babb; Kinberly Blair; Melissa Buchner; James Cox; Bill Harbin; Deborah Wilson.

Unexcused: Jimmy Brigman; William Elliotte; Brenda Field; Dean Franklin; Melvin Horton; Sherri Schwartz.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Senese Duhart with 33 senators present. She introduced Shelby Slater the Coordinator for Emergency Preparedness.

Mr. Slater shared with the senate that the Crisis Management Program and Plan was originated 4 to 5 years ago and he has been updating the plan. He stated that Crisis management was smaller in scope and encompassed things such as electrical outages. He stated that emergency management needed a larger response. He also stated that colleges are small cities having to operate on the same kind of structure as the regular community. He spoke on the function of NIMS – National Incident Management System and ICS – Incident Command System. He facilitates the plan and once approved by the University of Memphis president, exercises will be conducted to test the plan and to ensure if it works or if modifications or deletions are necessary.

Special Reports

Senator Debra Turner gave a report on the Administrative retreat theme “From Vision to Reality”. There were over 200 attendees. The hot topic was on recruitment and retention. The University of Memphis offers over 200 internships that are considered to be a good retention tool. TRIO grant awarded 1.1 million during the spring semester. Course redesigns were created out of the grant to better meet the needs of the students.

Another topic – voluntary buyouts will be offered to 50 staff, 25 faculty, and 40 administrative staff. An email will be sent out in late September or early October to present the plan. The Board will send the proposal to TBR for approval at their Sept 25-26 meeting. If approved by the TBR, announcements will be made on the U of M web site. Modify fiscal year positions could be in 10-month positions and will be considered full time paid over a 12-month period.

The University of Memphis web site updates are all being moved into the new system and will consist of wider and more rotating images. External content will be separate from internal content. New layout will be consistent on all sites. Content management under the new system will be more stable and faster.

Ask Me

Senator Julia Rhodes stated that the “Ask Me” campaign was a highly successful program. 83 staff and faculty signed up and there were several departments who did things on their own. President Raines loved the program and wore a sticker for several days. Positive feedback was received on making the program better. Warm Welcome was sponsored by Residence life to assist students in moving into the residence halls. Physical Plant and Planning was very active in aiding with transportation. Resident Life said it was very successful.

Vice-President Duhart asked for approval of the last minutes. Senator Guffin motioned that the minutes be approved and Senator Hudson second the motion.

Vice-President Duhart announced that the Staff Senate budget was \$4,023.70.

Committee Reports

Issues & Review – Senator Hudson is asking for volunteers. Senator Hudson has no report but reminded everyone that he sent an email asking if you have any issues to please make them known to him. Submit a draft for evaluation and consideration.

Legislative – Senator Guffin stated the committee met and would like volunteers. She talked about piggybacking to know what to talk about to students. A representative from legal would be happy to come and talk to us regarding FERPA.

Announcements

Car Pooling – Senator Rhodes is working on a survey to go out within the next month.

Meeting was adjourned by Vice-President Duhart.

Belinda E. Scott
Staff Senate Secretary