

**STAFF SENATE MEETING**  
**August 20, 2009**

**Present:** Regina Ayers; Susan Babb; Dorothy Colburn, Ladonnal Curry; John Farrell, Brad Frewin; Marijane Garrett, Sandy Guntharp; Sharon Harber, Linda Hall, William Harbin; Janet Hargrow, Melvin Horton, CaSandra Lee Hughes, Lanetha Hunt, Linda Hyatt, Phyllis Johnson; Temeka Jones; Patsy Krech, Barbara Kyker, Becky McCoy, Karen Newman; Belinda Scott; Ryan Seidner; Sherri Stephens; Joann Waddell; Kim Wilson; Brenda Woods

**Excused:** Ali Bandy, Karen Bell, Kimberly Blair, Carmen Davis, Lakesha Herring-Smith, Virginia Huss

**Absent:** Sandra Barksdale, Melissa Buchner, Amy Cable, Susan Elliot, Brenda Field, Judith Knight, Herbert McCree, Julia Rhodes, Joyce Stevenson

Meeting was called to order by President Babb with 27 Senators present. She then asked for roll call.

Senator Newman motioned and Senator Horton seconded the approval of the June minutes.

Signs for Mitchell taken care of by Tony Pattite, vinyl sign on Clement

Allen Elliot was suggested as possible web director but he is not on the staff senate. MJ Garrett was nominated to be web director, Karen Newman made the motion and Brad Frewin seconded. Linda Hyatt volunteered to help if needed.

Within an hour 50 people signed up for the 'Ask Me' campaign. If someone you know is willing to sign up, please have them do so. If you want stickers call Susan or Julie for extras. Pepsi vouchers will be given out as well.

A press conference will be held later today to announce the NCAA findings.

If the staff senate has no budget cuts, \$4000 will be added to the balance of \$1955.17, which will give us a total budget of \$5955.07. Outstanding expenditures include name tags and stickers.

Jude Knight met with Heather and Deb regarding membership and elections. A system was started that needs to continue, they will help with the clusters that still need elections, such as cluster O. An email will be sent to cluster O to ask for nominations.

Melvin Horton is representing the staff senate on the homecoming committee. He was approached by alumni affairs and asked about the possibility of combining staff appreciation with homecoming celebrations. We are being asked to give each staff member a t-shirt which will cost \$2-3 per piece. Alumni affairs will pay for any extras as

they can always use them. The homecoming committee is trying to increase participation at their carnival type event which will include face painting, pony rides, and a bouncer. The event will begin around 4pm, and then there will be a pep rally. Other events include a 50 yr reunion of cheerleaders including a competition, and a step show including alumni teams competing against the current team. The 9<sup>th</sup> of Oct is Alumni Day and alums are being encouraged to come to their colleges and visit as well as participate in the parade. Melvin suggested \$2000 to the t-shirts, which would still leave funds for a smaller event in the spring. Discussion included: many staff leave at 2:30 and may not participate, this year \$2735.00 was spent, suggested that maybe something can start earlier that day, custodians leave at 11:00 which would give them time to come back and participate, landscape/physical plant works homecoming all day long so they would not be able to participate, also MCS and Shelby county will be on fall break that day which could impact participation, how does this annual event really appreciate staff, should we have a day that celebrates just staff. Regina Ayers not interested in t-shirt as this promotes people asking for directions, etc. One suggestion included the staff senate could be part of a float, and it would be difficult to feel 'appreciated' that day. Melvin will send out an email with more details and a vote will be taken by email.

Swine flu – Al Simpson and Dr. Kapooth presented information about the H1N1 pandemic. The mortality rate is very low, lower than the seasonal flu, but influenza viruses tend to mutate. The university has a plan in place, check with supervisors to make sure proper planning is in place, crisis management team has been meeting about this since first reports came in from Mexico. If you take the vaccine you need to know the potential negatives. Two handouts were distributed, one on the flu vaccine and the other designed for students. Staff shortages are possible and handwashing training is needed. It was also recommended that telephones, computers and door knobs need to be cleaned regularly, as well as cross training of staff. Hand shaking spreads germs. The U of M has applied to be a distribution site for the vaccine when it becomes available and is working on administration through the school of nursing. Briarcrest, Eades, and LSU have current cases. This will not be like bird flu and go away. The earliest the vaccine could be available is Oct 15. Not sure at this time if we will need to be vaccinated annually.

Students are not to be attending class if infected, if ill with a fever need to stay home for 24 hours. If anyone is experiencing some flu like symptoms they should be encouraged to stay home. Information will be posted across campus and a blog is updated 2-3 times per week. [www.memphis.edu/swineflu.php](http://www.memphis.edu/swineflu.php) is a website with a lot of information.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Issues & Review** – Needs to be voted on by senate, if a constituent has an issue, you research and bring to senate, Linda Hall, Belinda moved, Lanetha Hunt second,

**Legislative Advisory**– Dorothy Colburn, needs 3 committee members, Bill Harbin

**By-Laws** – Revamped last year, Becky McCoy agreed to head this committee this year

**Public Relations** – No Report

**Campus Safety** – No Report

**Facilities** – Bill Harbin

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Experience** – No Report

**Dining Services** – No Report

**Election Committee** – Ladonna agreed to help Jude

**Space Planning** – Sherri Stevens

**Traffic & Parking** – Amy Cable expressed interest at last meeting

**Policy Review** – No Report

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday** – Need to have a representative present, Sherri Stevens will attend and report back.

**Sustainability** – met once last year, Kim Wilson

**UC Advisory** – Julie Rhodes will keep us informed

**U of M Giving** – No Report

**Fee Refund appeals** – Brenda Woods, Phyllis Johnson

**1<sup>st</sup> year experience** – Patsy Krech

**Dining services** – Melvin Horton

**Public Records** – Belinda Scott

**Committee chair will contact you if there is a meeting**

Melvin asked for volunteers for the public relations committee

A celebration of life event is being planned for Sajad in September, everyone on campus will be invited.

Anyone that wants to serve on a committee, please email Susan.

Meeting was adjourned by President Babb.