

Staff Senate

September 17, 2009

Present: Susan Babb, Sandra Barksdale, Kimberly Blair, Melissa Buchner, Amy Cable, Ladonnal curry, Carmen Davis, Susan Elliott, John Farrell, Brad Frewin, Sandy Guntharp, Sharon Harber, Linda Hall, William Harbin, Janet Hargrow, Lakesha Herring-Smith, Melvin Horton, CaSandra Lee, Virginia Huss, Linda Hyatt, Phyllis Johnson, Temeka Jones, Judith Knight, Patsy Krech, Barbara Kyker, Becky McCoy, Karen Newman, Julia Rhodes, Ryan Seidner, Sherri Stephens, Joyce Stevenson, Joann Waddell, Kim Wilson, Brenda Woods, Jean Rakow (President's Representative), Juanita Cousins (Commercial Appeal)

Excused: Regina Ayers, Karen Bell, Belinda Scott, Sherri Schwartz

Absent: Ali Bandy, Dorothy Colburn, Brenda Field, Maijane Barrett, Herbert McCree,

Dr. Raines is hosting a reception for the Staff and Faculty Senates from 4:00-5:30 on September 29 in the Rose entertainment lobby.

The university has several confirmed cases of swine flu. Everyone was encouraged to continue with hand washing and wipe down common areas

Virginia Huss shared the financial report. Expenses since last report include \$27.08 for tent cards, \$318.75 for ask me stickers. Our current balance is 3537.23.

Judith Knight reported on membership/elections. Lindsey Brown has agreed to serve in cluster O, Jennifer Brooks is tentative as she is not yet familiar with the staff senate, Debra Ann Brown was contacted but has not responded as she has been out ill. We now have a full compliment of members, Previous info from Heather is on a cd, Judith will take that data and develop it. Diana Humphreys declined in cluster D and Richard Bibb is the replacing member, Jude will follow up with Richard.

Melvin Horton- Discussed homecoming combining with staff senate last month and after discussion this was not approved. T-shirts cannot be purchased with state funds. HR will do a separate event. The public relations committee is looking for several more members. The homecoming committee asked for help with the petting zoo and bounce houses from 4:30-7:00 near Scates Hall on October 9th, we would not be responsible for safety, just crowd control. There is no estimate on attendance. Huey's is donating hot dogs and hamburgers. Melvin will need help getting prizes for staff senate appreciation day.

Julie Rhodes – The "Ask Me" program was a huge success. It was suggested that stickers be worn at the beginning of the spring semester. Comments from staff who volunteered were positive and included suggestions of taking pictures next year. Susan suggested putting the event in the update- send to Greg Russell. It was also suggested to include the opening week calendar in packet. A few more faculty members participated this year. See comments from participants of the "Ask Me" event at the end of this document.

Seasonal flu shots – are not the same as shots for H1N1, Sept 22- Oct is when flu shots will be available, shots on campus are cheaper than in other locations. Jean Rakow shared that there is a priority related to distribution, but over time others will be able to receive the vaccine as well. She attended a webinar and can forward us the powerpoint. People born before 1950 are projected to be less susceptible. This flu can live on live surfaces for hours, therefore cleaning surfaces is very important including stair rails which are not routinely wiped down. Carmen Davis reported that someone did a presentation and students are being made aware of precautions as well in the speech and hearing

department. People between the ages of 6 and 24 are most susceptible. Be aware that people may be using your phone when you are not in the office, so you may need to be more diligent about sanitizing your phones.

Melvin reported that dining services has installed POD in the psychology building. Einstein bagels are brought over fresh hourly in the mornings. Julia Rhodes reported card "swipers" are down this morning due to an update but students were still able to be served.

Call service center with issues, some machines that are taking cards are no longer taking dollar bills, change, and tiger cards.

Friday September 25, 1pm-3pm celebration of Sajad's life, his family will be there, in Fed Ex Institute 314-316.

Susan asked, if there is a way for the staff senate to be more involved than just standing and cheering during the graduation processional?

Next meeting: October 15.

Meeting adjourned.

Comments from "Ask Me" Event

It was such fun. Took me back maaannnnnyy years!

Jude

The weather was absolutely gorgeous; a perfect day for HELPing!

Debra

I thoroughly enjoyed volunteering.

Jackie Webb

I enjoyed it so put me down for next year

Linda

I loved doing it

Rosie

I had a fabulous time

Janis

It was great fun as always!

Mary

I was pleased to help our students.

Kim

I had such a great time doing it (I'm sure the nice weather had something to do with that). I loved seeing the look of relief on students' faces when they saw HELP was just a step away. I ran out of maps and drink coupons only 5 minutes before my 45 minute shift was finished. One female student, as she approached me said, "Oh! I'm such a freshman! Look at me asking for help." Her friend was laughing at her for asking me for help. So we made quick and comfortable conversation and found her destination on a map. Before she walked away, I said, "And for not being afraid to ask questions, you can have this" as I gave her a free drink coupon. She loved it and gave her friend a hard time for making fun of her. The friend definitely regretted it at that point. They left laughing and smiling. It was great fun. I will definitely sign up again next year. It is a great service to our students.

Crystal Theobald, Testing Coordinator, Student Disability Services

- It has been suggested that staff and faculty wear stickers at the beginning of the Spring Semester, not do the scheduled times, just have a presence on campus.