

STAFF SENATE MEETING
Sept 15, 2011

Present: Jeanette Ballentine, Mary Beasley, Sharon Beasley, Brigitte Billeaudeaux, Kimberly Blair, Karen Bradley, Melody Bridgeford, Ann Brock, Annette Rhodes, Hugh Busby, Pamela Chambers, Leroy Conway, MJ Garrett, Heather Hampton, Robynn Hopkins, Teresa Jones, Lisa Justen, Bobby King, Lavaire Lockhart, Mary Mansour, Cynthia Martin, Christopher Ratliff, Tyrone Ray, Angela Robinson, Hermes Rosa, Norma Shelton, Ryan Seidner, Jeff Story, Shelby Tate, Minghui Wang

Excused: Linda Arnold, Ruthie Bassford, Richard Bibb, Ladonnal Curry, Hilary DeLuco, John Farrell, Brad Frewin, Ernestine Harris, Michael Houston, Virginia Huss, Patsy Krech, Kutanya Niter, Geraldine Taylor, Patricia Taylor, Jennifer Walker, Lofton Wilborn, Letonia Williams, Pamela Williams, Alenda Faye Wilson.

Unexcused:

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Busby.

A motion was made to accept the August minutes by Senator Cynthia Martin and seconded by Senator Heather Hampton.

Correction to August Minutes: “Healthy You” is a “University of Memphis Initiative,” not a new “State of Tennessee Campaign” as previously typed in error. Thank you to Senator Hopkins for that clarification.

New Business:

Staff Senate Webpage: The Staff Senators by Cluster is in need of an update.

Ask Me Campaign update: Senator Ballentine announced that more volunteers were needed. She also passed out a Survey that new students took concerning the campaign and the response was that the students did not think that the volunteers were visible enough and many had no knowledge about the campaign. A suggestion to post signage around campus or have the volunteers wear t-shirts with “ASK ME” in bold type on the front and back were also made to get the word out that we are here to help. The students that were able to locate a volunteer commented that the volunteers were very helpful and informative!

Tobacco Free Campus Update: Senator Hopkins announced that the policy draft was in review- would have more information on the next meeting.

Memorial in Memory of Susan Babb- Senator Hopkins announced a suggestion for the Staff Senators to donate monies towards a name plate to go on the U of M Dedication Tiger on Campus with Susan’s name engraved on it. She estimated the cost would be about 50.00 to 100.00 depending on the size plate purchased. Senator Ballentine will assist her with this effort and they will present an update at the next meeting.

RESPECT: Senator Bobby King announced a new campus “Civility Campaign,” with the kickoff date of October 6. He explained that the purpose of this effort was to create a civil environment on campus and change the culture to one conducive to learning and working as it should be for all. For more information, please log on to www.memphis.edu/respect and check out the events schedule.

Staff Charged Dining Dollars: It was brought up that staff enrolled in 12 regular semester hours were being charged the \$300 dining dollar fee along with their tuition. The concern of the staff member was that once they used their PC-191 and Staff Scholarship paid for the 9 hours total, the remaining 3 hours that they would pay out of pocket was a hardship to pay with the dining dollar charge added. Senator Chalmers agreed to check into this and provide an update at the next meeting.

Tigers Around Town: A walking tour would be available- Alumni is working on plans on where to display the tigers around campus. To stay up to date on the process, please log on to Alumni's homepage for more information and calendar of events.

UofM Recycle Program-

A question about the disposal of recyclable items was brought up and the concern was that the information on the UofM recycle website was outdated and misleading- because the staff were under the impression that all they would have to do is call Physical Plant and they would send someone over to pick up the recycle items, but whenever they called to make arrangements for pick up, they were told that they would have to deliver the items themselves to the front desk in Physical Plant. It was also unclear of locations to dispose of large recyclable items (i.e. large boxes). A suggestion to create centralized locations for drop-offs was made. Senator Seidner agreed to check into the matter with Amelia Mayahi, the Sustainability Coordinator about updating the webpage. Ms. Mayahi's number is 5543. An update will be available at the next meeting-

Centennial Campaign "Empower the Dream"- check emails for more information or log on to: www.memphis.edu/update. Remember all donations are tax deductible.

Senator Conway offered the suggestion that the Staff Senate should be more visibly involved in campus activities, that we should go to the games as a group and wear our Staff Senator t-shirts and show our support as well as make our presence known around campus. I offered to check with the Athletics Department about possibly getting tickets to some of the games at a discount rate and we could plan to attend a game together as a group. The senators thought it would be a good idea- I will present an update at the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Budget-

Election- 3 Senator Vacancies

Issues and Review- No report

Legislative Advisory- No report

Campus Safety & Security – No Report

Fee Refunds & Appeals – No Report

First Year Experience – No Report

Food Services/Dining – No Report

Public Records & Forms – No Report

Space Planning – No Report

Traffic & Parking –No Report

Policy and Review- No Report

Sustainability- Senator Seidner announced “Tiger Blue Goes Green Day” October 7th. The theme would be “Transportation.” 5 Auto dealers would showcase electronic vehicles that day and representatives would be on hand to educate students as well as faculty/staff on the benefits of owning one.

Bylaws Committee- No Report

ESAC- No Report

Questions/Concerns- (Please refer to New Business segment)

Meeting was adjourned by Vice President Busby.