**The Staff Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Monday September 15, 2014**

**Raburn Conference Room**

**Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Staff Senate was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on September 15, 2014 in the Raburn Conference Room.

Members present were Jimmy Waddell, Bliss Adkison (proxy for Molly Vaughn), Anita Holcombe, Melissa Thornton, Russ Wilson, Jerrod Russell, Tyler Unsicker, Haley Brink, Kelly Ford, Janet Jones, Paula Hailey, Thomas Tidmore, George Sherrill, and Salena Denton

**Absent:** Molly Vaughn and Susan Hughes

**II. Special Guest Speaker**

Mr. Jimmy Waddell introduced Senators to special guest speaker– President Thornell. The following topics were briefly discussed:

* Importance of staff employees to the University
* Changes in sources of university revenue- importance of retention and recruitment of students
* University parking concerns
* Options for future available space in Floyd Science Building
* Concerns regarding increased funding for Staff Compensation plan
* Options for healthier food service in Recreation Center
* Fee waiver for faculty and staff for usage of Recreation Center
* Initiating a possible change in policy to allow Staff to serve as chair on the Shared Governance Executive Committee

Mr. Jimmy Waddell thanked President Thornell for his support in the 3% COLA for faculty/staff and for his valuable input to the Staff Senate meeting.

**III. Special Guest Speaker**

Mr. Jimmy Waddell introduced Senators to the next special guest speaker- Ms. Catherine White – Assistant Vice President for Human Resources.

Ms. Catherine White reported that it is the University’s decision to adjust the COLA first before mid-point adjustment. Ms. White also reported that the 3% COLA advanced the mid-point allocation spreadsheet up to 17 months. This now changes the end date to June 15, 2012. She extended an open invitation to Senators with additional questions to visit her office.

**IV. Approval of Agenda for the September 15th Meeting**

Mr. Russ Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Thomas Tidmore seconded. All present and approved the agenda as presented.

**V. Approval of Minutes for the August 4th Meeting**

Ms. Kelly Ford made a motion to change Ms. Mary Bowers and Ms. Molly Vaughn to Dr. Mary Bowers and Dr. Molly Vaughn and to approve the minutes. Ms. Melissa Thornton seconded after revisions. All present and approved the minutes as presented.

**VI. Staff Senate President’s Report**

Board of Trustee meeting information:

* Approved 3% COLA for faculty/staff
* 28 new faculty hired
* Construction of new residence halls

**VII. Shared Governance Committee Report**

Mr. Jimmy Waddell reported Staff Senate Nominations for Replacements on Share Governance Committee were approved for the following:

* Dr. Mary Bowers for Joan Smith on Academic and Student Affairs

Sherri Hester for Evelyn Roberson on Multicultural Advisory

Jermaine Ferguson for Allison Taylor on Food Services

* See Proposed Revisions to Section 2.4.3 of Faculty handbook – Adjunct/Affordable Care Act provisions

**VIII. Unfinished Business**

Mr. Jimmy Waddell informed Senators of upcoming email from Dr. Molly Vaughn asking for nominations for the Wellness Program Committee.

Mr. Jimmy Waddell asked for suggestions from Senators on setting goals for 2014-2015 Staff Senate. Goal suggestions were:

* Change in compensation policy for transferring employees
* Change in policy to allow Staff to serve as chair on Shared Governance Committee

**IX. New Business and Discussions**

Mr. Jimmy Waddell addressed concerns regarding implementing the salary compensation plan increase from $100,000 to $150,000 yearly.

**X. Announcements**

Mr. Jimmy Waddell announced that the next Staff Senate meeting will be October 13th.

**XI. Adjournment**

Ms. Anita Holcombe made a motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Russ Wilson seconded. All present and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anita Holcombe