UNA Staff Senate

Monday, November 10, 2014

Raburn Conference Room

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Call to Order – Senate President Waddell called the meeting to order at approximately 10 a.m. Members present and comprising a quorum were: Haley Brink, Salena Denton, Kelly Ford, Paula Hailey, Janet Jones, Jerrod Russell, George Sherrill, Melissa Thornton, Thomas Tidmore, Tyler Unsicker, Dr. Molly Vaughn, Jimmy Waddell, and Russ Wilson.

Members absent were Anita Holcombe and Susan Hughes. Tammy Jacques was present by invitation.

1. Approval of Agenda – Mr. Wilson made a motion to accept the agenda with one addition to New Business: Title IX information to be discussed by Ms. Jacques. Ms. Hailey seconded and the motion carried.
2. Approval of Minutes from October 13, 2014 – Ms. Thornton moved to accept the minutes with one correction under Item IX: New Business and Discussions, it should have stated three (3) staff-at-large positions, instead of two (2). Dr. Vaughn seconded and the motion carried.
3. Staff Senate President’s Report: Senate President Waddell reported that newly-selected University President is Dr. Ken Kitts, who plans to begin at UNA in late March or early April.
4. Shared Governance Committee Report – there was no report as the SGEC has not met since the last Staff Senate meeting.
5. Old Business
6. Wellness Program Committee – Dr. Vaughn reported that the committee will meet this month.
7. Request to Alter the Membership of the Shared Governance Executive Committee – Dr. Vaughn moved to approve and recommend the proposed changes to the membership of the Shared Governance Executive Committee so that staff members may be considered when selecting a chair for said committee and that an additional staff-at-large member be added (see attached). Ms. Denton seconded and the motion carried.
8. New Business
9. Title IX Information – Ms. Jacques distributed copies of the Power Point used in the Mandatory Reporting training session held earlier this semester and answered questions from committee members.
10. FSA Plan – Ms. Ford shared the concerns of a staff member about the $4.50 per month administrative fee assessed for employees using this plan. When contacted about the fee, Human Resources reported that the fee is assessed by BCBS and cannot be waived; therefore, there is no need for further discussion.
11. Proposal for Midpoint Funding Increase – Senate President Waddell will appoint a subcommittee from the Staff Senate membership (and will include Catherine White) to develop a proposal to increase the annual midpoint funding from $100,000 to $150,000.
12. Discussions
13. Announcements – the next meeting will be held December 8, 2014, at 10 a.m., in the Raburn Conference Room.
14. Adjournment – 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kelly Ford*

for Anita Holcombe

Attachment from Minutes of November 10, 2014, Item VI (b)

Request to alter the membership of the Shared Governance Executive Committee

The Shared Governance Document Article XIII A. 1. stipulates that the Chair of the Shared Governance Executive Committee should be a tenured senior faculty member. The chair position was originally stipulated to be a tenured senior faculty member because theoretically there could be serious disagreement between the chair of the SGEC and the president, making it beneficial to have the person in this position hold a secure role on campus. Given the climate on our campus and the level of trust we have in our administration, we no longer feel that such a condition is necessary, and propose the following changes:

In the interest of cooperation and collaboration among all campus constituencies, Staff Senate recommends that this requirement be changed such that a staff member serving on the SGEC **may** also be elected to serve as chair

In the event that a staff member is elected as chair, that would only leave two staff members as voting members, one of those being the Staff Senate president; therefore, Staff Senate requests that one staff at large position be added to the membership for a total of three (3) staff-at-large positions.

New language reads:

4. Three (3) staff members, at least two of whom must be below the rank of department chair/division director, recommended by the Staff Senate with the concurrence of the President