

MINUTES OF CSU STAFF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, August 4, 2011

I. ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Kat Cannella, Jay Knape, Debby Mayo, Dana McGlon, Nicole de Vries, Patsy Redmond, Eddie Woodhouse, Bethany Yandell

Special Guest: Byron Harris

III. CALL TO ORDER

Jay Knape presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Book Scholarship - \$326.63

Foundation - \$532.26

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS & SIGN-UP FOR COMMITTEES

Due to low attendance at today's meeting, committee officer and member assignments have been tabled until next month's meeting and sign-up sheets will be passed out again then.

Bethany Yandell, chair of the Fundraising Committee, reported that she is working on fundraising ideas, such as holding a crafts fair and a Boston Butt sale possibly this fall. She also plans to advertise extensively for this year's yard sale by placing ads in the paper as well as placing banners across campus. Bethany will follow-up on T-shirt sales as she still has the vender list with contacts. Eddie Woodhouse suggested the possibility of incorporating a donation option for Staff Council with the CSU Annual Fund and Bethany will follow-up on this.

V. PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL REPORT

Jay reported that the President's Council met once in June and the next meeting will be within the next two weeks. They reported enrollment estimates at the end of June and everything was tracking up compared to last year's time frame. They are optimistically cautious that numbers will go up. Freshman numbers are up but overall enrollment is down. The Georgia HOPE Scholarship is no longer paying for Basic Studies so we will see a drop in this discipline.

Budget & Budget Advisory Committee – State Revenues are up, so budget-wise for the university it should be flat with no cuts but also no increases. Rainy-day funds, etc. are being targeted for immediate funding. No merit raises expected this year and will be pending a salary study. A bid for this study and a purchase order has been assigned.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Jay reported that he is working on a new letterhead design with Public Relations and will add this to the agenda. Two letters are to be sent out; the first will go to the leadership encouraging their employees to participate in Staff Council, the second will go to staff as an invitation to join Staff Council.

B. BUDGET AND FUNDRAISING

See item V. above.

C. USG STATEWIDE COUNCIL CONFERENCE

The last meeting was held in July. Jay reported unconfirmed health insurance changes. HMO changes are being pushed for a higher deductible plan for newer employees. Also looking at a wellness program which entails encouraging healthy eating, exercise time, i.e.-walking, offering exercise programs to employees (clarification on this program will be announced system-wide). More information on these changes, and others, will be available later this month.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. GROUP PHOTO FOR WEBSITE

Due to low attendance at today's meeting, the group photo for Staff Council which will appear on the Staff Council website will be taken during September's meeting so please plan accordingly.

B. BUILDING BREAKS / FOSTERING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Nicole de Vries is spearheading this project with the idea of each building on campus that houses a lot of Admin/Staff such as Richards Hall, Plant Operations, University Hall, etc. participate as a way of fostering community awareness. The idea is to have one building host a pot-luck luncheon break with donuts, coffee, beverages and other treats to bring together employees who work in the same or nearby building who might otherwise never meet each other.

C. SPACE MISSION AS TEAMBUILDING EXERCISE

This is a great team building exercise that is free to staff council members and will be held at the Coca-Cola Space Science Center. Nicole de Vries is also spearheading this retreat which will last approximately three hours (two hours for the mission and one hour for lunch at Minnie's). Nicole will send out more information about this event along with a date and time and a sign-up sheet for individuals interested.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Jay Knape – Please contact UITS with problems associated with the recent domain change. Also, UITS again has control of the email distribution list for staff council and has moved it to Google groups. Christine Murphey and Dana McGlon have access to edit the distribution list.
2. Jay Knape - Faculty/Staff Welcome back event will be held Wednesday, August 10th at 11:00 a.m. in University Hall Auditorium followed by lunch in the Lumpkin Center catered this year by Aramark.
3. Nicole de Vries – New professional head photographs for Faculty/Staff Profiles are available August 9th at 12:30 N in Blanchard A in the Cunningham Center.
4. Nicole de Vries – Nicole will add staff council to the Committee's and Council web page as a recognized elected council along with Student Government and Faculty Senate. Nicole will also add the staff council link to this page.
5. Eddie Woodhouse – Eddie introduced Byron Harris, Director of Transportation & Environmental Safety with Plant Operations. Byron heads up Sustainability & Environmental projects and led us through the recent EPA Audit. Byron is an Auburn Graduate and retired from Auburn as an Environmental Specialist. Byron has also volunteered to meet with the Sustainability Committee headed by Troy Keller and Nicole de Vries. We would like to welcome Byron to Staff Council.
6. Kat Cannella – Open house for Continuing Ed will be held on September 8th.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Dana McGlon