

Staff Congress Regular Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2013 AC 506

Members Present: Sarah Aikman, Cindy Ash, Kerri Beach, Chris Bowling, Rachel Brueggen, Maribeth Carskadon, Peggy Dejaco, Cheryl Edelen, Tiffany Freytag, LuAnn Grimm, Kathryn Lovold, Chuck Miller, Amanda Meeker, Gail Messmer, William Moulton, Erin Mulligan, Sue Murphy, Rebekah Richardson, Ron Schulz, Glenn Scott, Mary Ann Trumble, Pam Wagar, Jenny Wagner, Chris Witt, Doug Wells, Robert Yelton, Carole Ziegler

Members absent: Peg Adams, Tina Altenhofen, David Bauer, Jeff Chesnut (medical absence) , Jane Goode, Carolyn Haley, Billy Scott, Jeff Varrone,

Guests: Leslie Pierce, Steve Meier, Grace Hiles

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM AM by President, Rebekah Richardson.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes by Peggy Dejaco. Second by Sarah Aikman. Motion approved.

Staff Regent: Steve Meier

Board met in July, not a full session. The new chair is Dennis Repenning. Elizabeth Thompson is the vice chair and Nathaniel Smith is the secretary. The newly appointed regent is Andra' R. Ward.

Human Resources: Leslie Pierce

Leslie announced the faculty/staff picnic. This year's event will take place on Wednesday, August 14th from 4:30 – 7:00pm on the Plaza. Entertainment will be provided by the Cincinnati Circus Company and music brought to you by our very own WNKU. There will be picnic food, fun and prizes. Staff member asked why this event was not announced sooner. There were scheduling issues.

Vice President for Administration & Finance: Ken Ramey

Ken was not able to attend

President's Report: Rebekah Richardson.

Rebekah announced the secretary election results; Jenny Wagner is the new secretary. She thanked the election committee. Rebekah is working with Ken Ramey on a parking policy solution. More will be revealed at the near future.

Standing Committee Reports:

Benefits: Our supplemental life insurance vendor, Minnesota Life, has provided additional coverage options for dependents. EOI (evidence of insurability) will be required for some of the options, but Minnesota Life will communicate directly with the employee for this.

The Hartford will be providing our short-term disability insurance. There will be no EOI this year only for moves to new levels of insurance. There will be new options for benefit coverage after 30 days of absence and a new alternative with benefit coverage after 15 days of absence.

There are no changes to the dental and vision programs.

The IRS increased the maximum savings amount by \$50 for individuals, and \$100 for employee plus one or more covered.

The Benefit Fair will be held starting at 11:30 on September 12 in SU 108 & 109. A postcard will be going out for this and other important dates.

Open enrollment dates are October 2 - October 11; Help Centers will be open October 7 – October 11.

KERS will be changing next year for those who become participants in 2014. It will include more portability for those who may not stay with the KERS system. More information is to come from KERS.

Constitution & By Laws: No Report

Outreach: Amanda Meeker announced the strategic planning meetings and the need for volunteers to be there to represent Staff Congress. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers

Technology: No Report

Policies: Met on July 24th to set goals for the upcoming year. They will continue to work with HR to revise and update university/staff policies.

Credentials and Elections: No Report

Scholarship: In collaboration with Information Technology the Staff Congress Staff Book Award link and application went live on July 24th. Our committee made a Midweek announcement on July 31st concerning the fall 2013 staff book award. Staff Congress Staff Book Award updates are as follows: Deadline for submissions were 12:00pm on August 7. We have 4 applications for review. We have received the applications from Grace, today the 8th. We are scheduled to meet on August 12 to decide our winner and we will announce and notify the recipient by August 14.

University Committee Reports:

Transportation Advisory: No Report

Food Service Advisory: No Report

Regent's Distinguished Service Award: No Report

President Climate Commitment:

Wellness: No report

Benevolent: Souper Lunch will be on Tuesday November 19th. The purpose of the benevolent fund was explained for new members.

Ad-Hoc Committees:

Round table /Panel of discussion: Rachel asked for volunteers for the round table committee. The date for the event will be October 11th. All V.P.'s will be invited.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcement: Plaza construction will not be done before school starts. A walkway will be opened up and signage will be posted to help everyone navigate the plaza. Lot L was just freshly paved. President's convocation is Friday, August, 16th at 9:30. Student convocation will be at 3:30.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Pam seconded by Peggy. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.