

STAFF SENATE

Monday, July 25, 2016

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The Ozark Campus Staff Senate was called to order on Monday, July 25, 2016 at 9:05 a.m. in Conference Room 137 in the Ozark Health Science and Wellness Building.

ROLL CALL

Senators Present:

Laura Rudolph

Sandra Anderson

Peter Clifton

Jennifer Thomas

Stacie Harden

David Spicer

Ex-Officio Present:

Beverly Nehus

Visitors Present:

Sharyl Moffit

Faith Johnson

MINUTES: Handwritten notes from the June 3, 2016 Staff Senate meeting were provided by former Staff Senate Secretary Faith Johnson. Former Secretary Johnson will officially type the notes into the official meeting minute's format. The official June 3, 2016 minutes will be distributed electronically and available for approval at the August 5, 2016 Staff Senate Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Employee of the Month Reserved Parking-** Laury Fiorello was drawn from the pool of staff members as the August 2016 Staff Employee of the Month. She will be highlighted with a campus monitor slide and given the privilege to designate a parking spot for the month of August.
- **Birthday Cards** were presented for August Staff Birthdays to be signed and delivered.
- **New Members Introduced:** Stacie Harden and David Spicer were introduced as the new members of the Staff Senate and will serve a 3 year term.
- **Former Staff Senate Member as Liaison:** Ex-Officio Nehus brought forth a proposal for a former member of the Staff Senate to preside as a Liaison during term changes for senators to provide valuable information on the Staff Senate process to new members.
 - After a brief discussion, the decision to have a Liaison was believed unnecessary due to the nomination process. A maximum of two members leave the Staff Senate during nomination years leaving at least four members with previous experience and knowledge of the process available. Therefore, the Liaison would not be necessary.

- **Election of Officers:**
 - Nominations for President were announced with the following candidates: Laura Rudolph, Jennifer Thomas, and Sandra Anderson. Senators Anderson and Thomas declined the nominations of President. **Senator Laura Rudolph accepted the nomination and was named President for the 2016-2017 year.**
 - Nominations for Vice President were announced with one candidate, David Spicer. **Senator Spicer accepted the nomination and was named Vice President for the 2016-2017 year.**
 - Nominations for Secretary were announced with one candidate, Jennifer Thomas. **Senator Thomas accepted the nomination and was named Secretary for the 2016-2017 year.**

- **Staff Senate Community Involvement:** Ex-Officio Nehus discussed the possibility of the Staff Senate increasing their community involvement. The issue had been brought to her by Chancellor Bruce Sikes. Chancellor Sikes would like to see the Staff Senate become involved in available volunteer opportunities within the community and ATU Russellville Campus. Some examples given were local Ozark Campus events and ATU Russellville and Ozark Campus homecoming events.
 - The majority of senators agreed greater community involvement would be very beneficial if a policy on volunteering was clear cut and enforced campus wide. The policy should make clear if employees must use leave time to participate in volunteering activities during normal work hours. A suggestion was made for the Staff Senate to have T-Shirts, name badges, or pins to adequately identify the group during volunteering events. President Rudolph plans to meet with Chancellor Sikes on these issues as soon as possible and will report back to the Senate during the next Staff Senate meeting.

- **Report from Russellville Staff Senate:** Secretary Thomas provided a report based on her notes from Russellville Staff Senate meeting which occurred July 6, 2016 on the following topics:
 - Legal Counsel provided an update on the new Staff Handbook. Many items are still pending and a draft was not available for review. The following items were noted regarding the discussion of the handbook:
 - Estimated 100 pages.
 - Leave without pay will be addressed with new rulings.
 - Legal Counsel hopes to gain approval of the new handbook at the August board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Walking Challenge update and award-** Ex-Officio Nehus reported the Walking Challenge winning team, The Holy Walkamolies, were awarded \$25.00 gift cards to the ATU Ozark Campus Bookstore.

- **Staff Award-** The Staff Excellence award nominee will be announced and a plaque will be presented at the August 23, 2016 Welcome Back meeting. Ex-Officio Nehus will order the plaque through ATU Ozark Foundation Account.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Next meeting is presently scheduled for Friday, August 5, 2016 at 9:00 AM in the Ozark Health Science and Wellness Building Conference Room 137.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Spicer motioned, Senator Clifton seconded, and all approved the motion to adjourn at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Thomas, Secretary