

Wayne State College

Professional Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2007

Senators present: Mary Carstens, Bev Buhrman, Derek Anderson, Brooke Brendenburg, Ron Vick and Marcus Schlichter

Absent: Kevin Halle and Loren Kucera

Guests: Lin Brummels, Tara Mieras, Terri Heggemeyer, Craig Kinsella, Beth Kroger

Minutes: Derek Anderson moved and Mary Carstens seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting. The motion carried. Derek Anderson moved and Ron Vick seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting. The motion carried.

Treasure: Terri Heggemeyer gave the treasure's report. There is \$362.49 in the checking account. It was moved by Mary Carstens and seconded by Derek Anderson to accept the treasure's report. The motion carried. Terri brought up the idea of spending some money to buy a gift for a need person this holiday. Motion was made and approved to spend approximately \$20.00 toward a gift for the Haven House tree. Terri will buy a gift.

Committee Reports:

Mentoring: Lin Brummels – Letters describing the Mentoring program were sent to all recently hired professional staff. Two staff have requested and received mentors as a result of this process.

Social: Mary Carstens – No report

Recognition: Derek Anderson – Three professional staff were nominated for the fall semester Professional Staff Recognition award. The nominees were Dorothy Weber, Derek Anderson and Dan McLaughlin. Derek Anderson recused himself from the voting for this award. Dorothy Weber was selected by secret ballot to receive recognition this fall 2007. Congratulations to all three nominees and thanks to the folks who took time to nominate them. Bev will follow up on this award process.

Continuing Ed: Kevin Halle – No report

Membership: Loren Kucera – No report

Hospitality: Dorothy Weber – submitted a written report. Cards were sent to Todd Farmer for finishing his PhD, Jodene Barta on her marriage, Raj Rathedi for admission to Hall of Fame, Phyllis Spethman sympathy on death of father-in-law, new baby girl congratulations to Kathy Mohlfeld and retirement congratulations to Steve Gross.

Policy: Brooke Bredenberg: No Report

Communication: Marcus Schlichter: has updated mailing list and requested Senate's wishes regarding receiving minutes prior to approval. The Senate requested that minutes be e-mailed to them for review as well as being placed on the G drive.

Grant application process: Phyllis Connor approved the changes to the grant application process. The information and grant application forms are now on the PSS website and the G drive. Please note that all applications will be due to the President's Office by April 1st of each year.

The Student Senate representative to the PSS sent a note that he would be unable to attend today and asked that minutes be sent to him.

Beth Kroger was the guest speaker today. Beth reported that there are no policy issues pending that she is aware of that might affect professional staff. Beth is working on updating the Travel Handbook and has

added some additional financial information. It should be available soon. A question was asked about the status of the pay stub information. This issue is still under discussion between the state colleges and the State of Nebraska. Another question was raised about state employees going to bimonthly paychecks and if this was likely to affect state college employees. Beth is not aware of any move to change our pay periods. Beth reported that the WSC budget looks ok for this year. The governor continues to promote the idea of returning money to taxpayers so it is unclear if that intention will affect future budgets.

Other:

1. Dr. McCue apologized for the oversight of not having a representative from the PSS at the last Strategic Planning retreat in Norfolk (held in November). This will be rectified the next time a retreat is held.
2. A member of the professional staff union has been invited to an upcoming meeting to discuss future goals.
3. It was reported that several staff attended one or more of the financial services meetings provided by private contractors. It was noted that a consultation could run \$400 for a private consultation. One staff recommends talking to TIAA/CREF by phone as there is no charge for that.

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Brummels for Kevin Halle