

Professional Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2008

Present: Ron Vick, Bev Buhrman, Mary Carstens, Terri Heggemeyer, Nick Muir, Valerie Knight, Marilyn Yates

Absent: Kevin Halle

Guests: Lin Brummels, Kathy Mohlfeld, Craig Kinsella, Dorothy Weber, Brian Lentz

Nick Muir, Chair Elect called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

Minutes: The motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasure's Report: Terri Heggemeyer made the following report: Our current balance is \$461. Discussion was held on projects that the Professional Senate could contribute to in the coming year including a bench in the new commons area. Plans are being redrawn for the commons so we will revisit this possibility later in the year.

Committee Reports

Mentoring: Lin Brummels reported that no new mentoring connections had occurred. Nick volunteered to serve as a mentor.

Social: Mary Carstens/Terri Heggemeyer reported that the fall potluck was held on Oct 21 during fall break. There was a good participation of both professional and support staff. It was suggested that we hold the next dinner in the new Athletics area and have a tour of the renovated facilities.

Recognition: Valerie Knight no report

Continuing Ed: Mary Carstens/Terri Heggemeyer reported that there will be an etiquette dinner in early November. Anyone interested in attending should contact Terri. Cost is \$11.00.

Membership: Beverly Buhrman reported that memberships list will be sent out once a month to the senators.

Hospitality: Dorothy Weber sent cards to Connie Spahr and Vaughn Benson. Everyone is reminded to keep Dorothy informed about life events on behalf of the WSC Professional Staff.

Policy: Nick Muir reported on a discussion about NSEA and NSPCA. There was discussion of the proposed deletion of 30 Board personnel polices. We are still waiting for the official agenda from the Board Office to see if some of these proposals have been removed from the agenda. Lin brought up the new Employee Handbook and reviewed the list of potential infractions listed in the handbook. There was general concern about the vague nature of the language in these items. Lin, Nick and Kevin will request a meeting with Dr. Collings before the Board meeting to discuss these concerns.

Communication: Ron Vick Sr. has been sending out communication as received. Contact Ron if there is any communications that need to be forwarded to all members.

New Business: Round Table Discussion at Nov. Board meeting – Professional staff have been invited to participate in a discussion group at the November Board meeting at 3:00 pm on Thursday, 11/13/08. The following staff volunteered to participate: Nick Muir, Kevin Halle, Mary Carstens, Bev Buhrman, Terri Heggemeyer. Anyone else interested should contact Kevin Halle.

Other Business:

1. **Campus Communication:** There was general agreement that college employees often do not know about events, campus occurrences until they read about them in the newspaper, hear a TV report or talk to a community member. The Senate agreed that internal campus communication needs attention and plan to invite Jay Collier to meet with the Senate at a future meeting.
2. **Young Professionals Group:** Nick mentioned that Wes Blake was forming a Young Professionals Group in the community through the Chamber. Please contact Nick if you would like more information.
3. **Parking Spot:** Brian Lentz reminded those present that anyone contributing to the WSC Foundation was eligible to earn a reserved parking spot for the next year. Brian had a box with names and Nick drew the winning name. Chad Altwin won the parking spot with Shawn Mancastroppa designated an alternate if Chad does not want the reserved spot.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, December 4, 2008 in the BlueStem Room

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Buhrman, Secretary