

Professional Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2009

Present: Kevin Halle, Bev Buhrman, Mary Carstens, Terri Heggemeyer, Nick Muir, Valerie Knight, Marilyn Yates

Absent: Ron Vick

Guests: Lin Brummels, Heather Reinhardt and Deb Daehnke, Support Staff Representative

Kevin Halle called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. The meeting was held at the downtown coffee shop.

Minutes: The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2009, meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Our current balance is \$381.90. Terri will send out a reminder about dues in August for those who have not paid. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report.

Committee Reports

Mentoring: Lin Brummels No new requests for Mentors this month.

Social: Mary Carstens/Terri Heggemeyer \$30 and a box of food was collected for the Food Pantry at the Professional Staff Recognition Brunch. Mary has received a request for a summer social event. It was agreed to try a picnic at Bressler Park in July so that staff could bring spouse/significant other and/or children. Mary will check into a date in mid-July and keep us posted. Valarie volunteered to make a poster, Terri will pick up the tableware and Marilyn will be in charge of clean-up. A flyer advertising this event will be sent to staff.

Recognition: Valerie Knight The recognition brunch was held May 28, 2009. President Collings handed out Years of Service Plaques. Barb Meyer was recognized with the Professional Staff Recognition Award. Valarie reported that she thought the brunch went well. Tables were set for 70 people and seemed to be full. A count for attendance will be obtained from Chartwells. It was noted that the Niobrara Room is a good location as the group seemed to fit better in that space.

Continuing Ed: Terri Heggemeyer – There are fewer events scheduled on campus in the summer. Karen Granberg is offering Mindful Breathing on Tuesday and Thursday at 3:45 in the Student Center. NATS has a variety of training opportunities this summer.

Membership: Bev Buhrman will request an updated list after July 1st.

Hospitality: Dorothy Weber – no report.

Policy: Nick Muir reported on a change in the way charge-backs to departments will occur. There will now be a cut-off after the 20th of the month (copy charges, phone, etc) so that the month's activities can be included in that month rather than showing up in a later month.

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 and committee information was updated.

New Business

1. New Senators were elected in May. Amy Carpenter was elected from the Hahn group to replace Bev Buhrman. Jamie Mackling was elected to replace Ron Vick in Student Services. Mary Carstens was re-elected for another two year term. These senators will begin their term in August. Officers will be elected from the group at that time.
2. Amendment to Professional Staff Constitution: It was moved and seconded to amend the PSS Constitution to move the Recognition Brunch from August to May. Motion Carried.
3. Terri announced that there will be another budget meeting June 25, 2009. The faculty union contract may be finalized at that time.
4. The group discussed Board Policy 5017 that will be voted on at the Board of Trustees meeting next week. The Board is proposing to eliminate the possibility of emeritus status for professional and support staff. The Senate had no information about why this was proposed but felt that it made a statement that people (employees) are not a priority at WSC. Kevin will write a letter to Dr. Collings stating that the Senate is opposed to this change.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 6, 2009. Nick Muir as incoming Chair of the Senate will arrange the location and notify staff.

Respectfully submitted, Lin Brummels
for
Beverly Buhrman, Secretary