

Wayne State College

Professional Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2011

Present: Mary Carstens (Senate Chair), Marcus Schlichter (Senator), Robin Labenz (Senate Secretary), Nick Muir, Jamie Mackling (Senator), Amanda Rusch (At-Large), Lin Brummels, Debbie Johnson, Phil Pfaltzgraff

Absent Senators: Lindsay Erwin (Senate Vice-Chair), Kara Woehler (Senate Treasurer), Amy Carpenter (Senator), Quinn Nicely (Senator)

Senate Chair Mary Carstens called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. at Udder Delights. Mary stated this would be her last meeting as Senate Chair. Lindsay Erwin will be taking over in August. Mary introduced and welcomed Amanda Rusch, our new At-large Senator.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the May 2011 meeting was presented. The motion was made and seconded to approve them. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

There is a total of \$323.03 in the checking account. Kara Woehler will resume taking contributions in the fall. The motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Committee Chair Reports:

Social: Nick Muir said the PSS annual summer picnic will be held in Bressler Park on July 12. Members are asked to bring a dessert, salad, &/or main dish (one if the member attends or two if their families join them.) More details will follow in an e-mail.

June 29 is the Employee Appreciation Picnic in WEOPA plaza from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Nick will be sending out additional information about the new lunch get-togethers starting this fall on Tuesdays.

Mentoring: Lin Brummels reported there have been no new professional employees recently. She expects a fall rush as positions are filled.

Policy: Robin Labenz reported there had been minor changes to several board policies. One in particular she thought supervisors would be interested in is Policy 5010. The policy was revised to identify the categories of NSCS employees and guidance was added for how colleges may hire students and temporary employees. The biggest change to the policy is that it states the number of hours students and temporary employees can work. A complete listing of the board policies that received changes is available online at www.nscs.edu.

Hospitality: Lin delivered the hospitality report for Dorothy Weber. Dorothy had mailed cards to Sandy Driskell and Deb Lundahl on the death of their father. Wedding cards were mailed to Jason Barelman & Mark Moser and Lindsay (Erwin) and Scott McLaughlin. A farewell card was sent to Brian Lentz.

Continuing Education: No report from Lindsay McLaughlin.

Nick said he sent the e-mail out with information about the Wayne Leadership Project that will start this fall. He said it is worth the money and highly recommends it to all who can to attend.

Recognition: Mary stated that Phil Pfaltzgraff had received the Professional Staff Recognition award. Phil thanked everyone and was very excited to receive the award.

Communication: Ron Vick continues to be the webmaster of the Professional Staff Senate's webpage. Changes or additions can be made by getting in touch with Ron.

Membership: An updated membership list will be obtained from Joni Backer after contracts have been issued.

Old Business:

- Robin mentioned the work being done on the Professional Staff Senate's Constitution. The work primarily deals with clearing up vague language and ensuring there are adequate numbers of Senate representatives; especially in the at-large category. After doing a bit of research, Robin reported the change made in 2006 to the Vice-Chair/Chair/Past-Chair position's term length was never officially changed in the Constitution. She doesn't have a current copy. The copy of the Constitution available online is a 2003 version. Lin will check to see if she has the latest version. We will work to get a current version on the website. Nick, Jamie Mackling, and Robin will meet again in July to continue the discussion of the Constitution.

New Business:

- Mary discussed recent personnel actions within the VPAF department. A meeting was held with Jean Dale, Cheryl Waddington, Curt Frye, Senators from the three senates, and Union representatives. The main concern of the meeting was how a new position within the VAPF department was filled without a search. The explanation given by Administration was that a position was reorganized to assist the VPAF and was filled at the manager's prerogative. Along with the title, the position's salary was "upgraded" as well. The Senate will draft a statement that describes the disappointment and frustration felt by members at how the appointment was handled. Lin will create a draft to be e-mailed out to all members of the Professional Senate by June 20. The statement will be an addendum to these minutes.
- Mary told the Senate there are Campus Master Planning meeting's being set up between a BVH architect and various WSC departments. They would like to meet with Professional Staff Senators as well. Our meeting is scheduled for June 23 from 1:00p – 2:15p in Gardner Hall 105. Senators are welcome to attend.

Other Business:

- Robin asked if a "special events" folder could be added to the Senates website. Nick will take care of the request.
- Robin presented a request on behalf of President Curt Frye if anyone on the Professional Staff Senate would be interested in serving on the Inauguration committee. Mary Carstens volunteered and Jamie Mackling would also like to be included if space was available.

The next meeting will be held at **2:00 p.m. Thursday, August 11** in the *Bluestem Room* in the Student Center. There was a motion to adjourn, it was seconded and followed by all in favor.

*Respectfully submitted,
Robin R. Labenz*