VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE 1810 Litton Reaves Minutes of the Regular Meeting Thursday, June 17, 1999

Senators present: Reba Crawford, Holli Drewry, Cathy Hansen, Aaron Hill, Delbert Jones, Mary Pennington, Ben Poe, Christina Porterfield, Pamela Raines, Joy Thorn, Virginia Viers, Jon Wooge,

Alternates: Rebecca Barlow, Jessie Eaves

Excused: Jack Davis, Janet Francis, Cindy Harrison, Terry Lawrence, Nancy Phillips, Peggy Rasnick, Janet Town

Visitor: Jimmy Martin

We did not have a quorum; therefore we could not approve last month's meeting.

Judy Ridinger, from Personnel, presented an example of a Powerpoint presentation of updated changes in major policies, etc., geared toward small staff meetings w/the different departments at Virginia Tech. Employees initially get this information at the orientation sessions when they are first hired. Topics have been chosen based upon frequently-asked questions to the personnel office. She would like to coordinate short information sessions w/the staff associations of the departments. This would be good publicity for the associations since it would help staff members be aware that there are such organizations on our campus. These sessions would be for the employees, not the department heads/supervisors This would help refresh "old" employees as to benefits, leave policies, etc.

She is looking for suggestions/reactions to this information and whether staff associations would like to partnership w/them. This might be one way to encourage some staff associations to grow stronger; it might also help some departments realize that they need an association.

Ben stated that this would be a good thing to focus on next year – if this is something we'd like to pursue, what steps do we need to take to form this partnership. Told her that she would need to contact the presidents of the different associations.

Ben Poe suggested that we send a note down through the staff associations and see what feedback we might get.

Ben Poe asked about 9-month appointments for staff. This has already been implemented by Personnel; it's a matter of the department head or director to request.

John Wooge stated that all of the people on the election ballots have been contacted; this is now in the process of being sent to the President's office.

After telling a joke, Ben passed the "Official Staff Senate Gavel" to the new president, Delbert Jones.

Adjournment at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Cathy Hansen, Secretary