

STAFF SENATE
1810 Litton-Reaves
Thursday May 24, 2007
12:00noon-1pm

Attending: Judy Alford, Susan Archer, Kevin Ayoub, Christina Brogdon, Catherine Caldwell, Lisa Cotting, Reba Crawford, Paul Davis, Sue Ellen Crocker, Angela Duncan, Jessie Eaves, Velva Groover, Walter Hartman, Denise Jones, Cindy Koziol, Joyce Landreth, Debbie Law, Tom McAvoy, Tracy McCoy, Wyatt Sasser, Tess Sentelle, Lori Kirk, Chris Thomas, Tom Tucker, Hubert Walker, Ken Wieringo, Carrie Reed, Sara Smithers, Spence Joslin, Jerry Surface.

Excused: Shelby Cole, Louellen Sharp, Jon Wooge, Robin Atkins, Christy Porterfield, and Linda Price.

Jean Brickey opened the meeting, the agenda was adopted with a slight change, and the minutes were approved with a spelling correction.

The Board of Visitors will meet June 3th & 4th which will be the last meeting of the year. Judy Alford will be introduced to them at the end of the session

Announcements:

Volunteers were recruited for the New Staff Senate National Initiative committee, established to plan a Staff Leadership Seminar where VT will invite universities from across the country to attend. A proposal will need to be drafted and sent to Jim Hyatt requesting funds for the event. Volunteers to work on the committee are Jean Brickey, Judy Alford, Maxine Lyons, Susan Archer, Kevin Ayoub, Reba Crawford, Lori Anne Kirk and Spencer Joslin.

Organization of the Provost & Outreach Staff Association is in discussion and should come to the Senate in June.

McComas Staff Leadership Seminar was well attended despite the inclement weather and was complimented by the visitors who attended from other universities as well as the VT Staff who attended.

CASE Bylaws were approved with the addition of "and be ratified by Staff Senate" added to Sec/ 6 item B. The National Capital Region is researching the interest of creating a staff association there.

Employee Advisory Committee Status is in the process of getting last college approvals and will soon be finalized.

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Charles Steger, President Virginia Tech spoke to the Senate regarding the tragedy of April 16th. He complimented the staff for all their kindness, support, and help throughout this time. He stated that the families of the victims have been financially taken care of and the classrooms in Norris Hall will not be used again but the building will not be torn down. There are discussions about scholarships being set up in memory of the deceased and the establishment of a memorial on campus. He mentioned the \$1 million donation to the Hokie Spirit fund from the New York Yankees and the possibility of them playing a game at VT. People who have given advice and input has been greatly appreciated. Dr. Steger mentioned that I-messaging was already being discussed before the event and will be implemented so everyone will need to register their cell phones with the university. Two more loud speakers will be installed on campus and a second dispatcher will be housed on campus. Digital marques are being considered at the entrances to campus along with locking devices and other security measures. Dr. Steger was asked what the staff can do to help and he said there are 2 things: Grieve (everyone needs to grieve at some point and should not be embarrassed) and care for each other (to support and care for each other). We are a close and caring community!

Dr. Steger was asked what he would like to see the Staff Senate focus on in the future and he asked that we give him time to contemplate the question.

Dr. Steger presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Jean Brickey the Staff Senate President and First Representative to the Board of Visitors.

Next meeting will be June 21, 2007 and James Hyatt will be the speaker.

Respectfully submitted:
Maxine Lyons, Secretary