

STAFF SENATE

Minutes

1810 Litton-Reaves
Thursday, November 15, 2007
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 12 noon.

Attendance: Judy Alford, Bonnie Alberts, Susan Archer, Jean Brickey, Cristina Brogdon, Cindy Booth, Catherine Caldwell, Holly Carroll, Sarah Castle, Nicole Coggins, Dan Cook, Lisa Cotting, Reba Crawford, Paul Davis, Karen Hall, Walter Hartman, Geraldine Hollandsworth, Jennifer Hundley, Travis Hundley, Delbert Jones, Tracey Keister, Cindy Kozoil, Lori Lee, Maxine Lyons, Karisa Moore, Wyatt Sasser, Becky Saylor, Bradley Scott, Joyce Smith, Jerry Surface, Chris Thomas, Tom Tucker, Hubert Walker, Vicki Walter, Ken Wieringo, Jon Wooge,

Excused: Robin Atkins, Sue Ellen Crocker, Jessie Eaves, Joyce Landreth, Lori Kirk Christy Porterfield, Sue Teel

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was adopted

Approval of Minutes (electronically): The minutes were accepted with slight changes.

Announcements:

Library Association Resolution 2007-01 – Nicole Coggins asked the Senate allow the Library Association to change their constitution and drop the term alternate senators so it would simply read Senators because the alternates attended all meetings anyway. This was voted on, seconded, and passed.

VT-ENGAGE Senate Project - Judy has received 4 submissions for ideas and will contact them for more information before distributing the survey.

Employee Advisory Committee Update – Linda Woodard announced that the design teams are in place and held the first (orientation) meeting this morning. The Senate plans to add a link on the senate webpage to the Restructuring webpage for more information as the process continues.

Bring a guest to Senate (January 2008) – Judy stated that the January meeting will be in 1100 Torgersen Hall and light refreshments will be served. Senators were asked to be prepared to make a short statement about their respective committees and commissions that they serve on. All were asked to bring a guest that does not currently attend Senate meetings.

Staff Senate National Conference – Judy stated that the official name for the upcoming seminar is *National Staff Leadership and Governance Seminar*. The committee is currently working on a proposal.

Board of Visitors meeting – Judy noted several highlights from the Board of Visitors meeting earlier this month including that fact that 96% of students feel safe on the VT campus. She also noted that 19,000 students, staff, and faculty now subscribe to the VT Alert system with the majority of subscribers being students. Other information included changes to the VT Police department: the department now answers directly to the Office of the Executive Vice President and COO; 11 new positions have been created; there are back-up people to fill in for key people when needed; and a threat assessment team has been created. The Senate President Constituency Report is available on the Senate website.

Linda Woodard, Associate V.P. for Administrative Services and Chief of Staff, and Melinda West, Commission on Faculty Affairs, related information concerning possible restructuring of the faculty system at VT. At present there are three types of faculty in pay bands 5 and higher but in the future there may be another layer called Managerial Faculty added. Which means approximately 500 classified and university

employees could be moved to A/P faculty status. If this happens, individuals will have a choice of moving to A/P faculty rank or staying in their current rank.

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Sherwood Wilson, Vice President for Administrative Services spoke to the Senate regarding current changes at VT as well as possible future changes. He said that there are many opportunities in higher education at this time. He also noted that the College of Architecture & Urban Studies is now the number 1 architecture school in the nation. He listed 8 items that are being addressed in his area.

1. Sustainability program has been created
2. A new Chief of Staff position created. Linda Woodard holds that position.
3. HR restructuring is underway
4. Spatial data is being gathered and a user-friendly GIS program will be utilized create an accurate accounting of all buildings and spaces on campus
5. Environmental Health & Safety senior management position has been created
6. Building Official & Code Review process is being implemented
7. Looking at a planning process for capitol building that draw in the University Architect's office and other areas into a more focused view for planning.
8. Facilities reorganization to manage all construction projects more efficiently.

Next meeting:

January 17, 2008 – Bring a Guest to Senate Day (1100 Torgersen Hall)

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maxine Lyons, Staff Senate Secretary