

STAFF SENATE Minutes
Donaldson Brown Graduate Life Center – Room F
Thursday, June 18, 2009
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

Attending: Bonnie Alberts, Catherine Caldwell, Dan Cook, Karen Hall, Jennifer Hundley, Travis Hundley, Lori Anne Kirk, Lori Lee, Tracy McCoy, Wyatt Sasser, Louellen Sharp, Sue Teel, Ken Wieringo

Excused: Judy Alford, Jean Brickey, Carlyne Dudding, Cindy Koziol, Becky Saylor, Bradley Scott, Tom Tucker

The meeting was called to order, agenda approved, and minutes accepted.

Announcements:

VT Engage – Maxine Lyons reported that if an employee logs 50 hours they will receive a pin to recognize their service. Please contact Carlyne Dudding or Robin Atkins for more information.

Violence Prevention Committee – Maxine Lyons reported that the meeting was canceled.

McComas Staff Leadership Seminar – Maxine Lyons reported that based on a follow-up meeting the committee had after the seminar, it was determined that the planning committee should form earlier to begin preparing for next year's seminar. The planning committee should form sometime between early summer and fall since it involves inviting external participants and they need information earlier to make plans to attend. Maxine Lyons is seeking volunteers to serve on the planning committee. If interested, please contact her by email to volunteer.

Winter Closing – Wyatt Sasser reported that the Benefits Committee voted at their June meeting to pursue discussions on winter closing. Their vote was sent to the Commission on Faculty Affairs and to the Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs. It was mentioned that the discussion should also include the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty.

Program:

Maggie Sloane, Director of Compliance and Conflict Resolution with The Office for Equity and Inclusion, gave a very informative presentation on the proposed changes to University Policy 1025, "Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy", as it relates to Gender Identity Issues. The current policy outlines ten protected characteristic and the proposed revision would add two additional protected characteristics, gender identity or expression and genetic information, to the policy. In addition, the policy will include specific references to the internal mediation program under the list of informal options to help resolve conflict. A vote on Staff Senate endorsement of the revised Policy 1025 will occur at the July meeting. The revised Policy 1025 will go before University Council at their first meeting in the fall. The current Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy can be found at <http://www.policies.vt.edu/1025.pdf>. Additional information can also be found at <http://www.oeo.vt.edu/site/v4/index.php?id=10> and <http://www.oei.vt.edu/>.

The Next meeting will be **July 16, 2009** at the **Inn at Virginia Tech, Cascades Room**. Lynett Cruise from Human Resources will discuss major changes to VSDP short term disability benefits.

With no more discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Hundley
Senate Secretary

Staff Senate Minutes
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