

STAFF SENATE Minutes
Torgersen Hall, Room 1100
Thursday, November 19, 2009
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

Attending: Jennifer Hundley, Lori Greiner, Karen Hall, Pat Williams, Jon Wooge, Sue Teel, Carlyne Dudding, Maxine Lyons, Vanessa Law, Judy Taylor, Delbert Jones, Louellen Sharp, Robin Atkins, Judy Alford, Dan Cook, Ken Wieringo, Jean Brickey, Tracy McCoy, Bonnie Alberts, Jim Baker, Lisa Cotting, Robin McMall-Miller, Stella Price, Tom Tucker, Catherine Caldwell, Lori Anne Kirk, Joseph Goodman, Wyatt Sasser, Travis Hundley, Hal Irvin, Michael Sutphin, Reba Crawford, Erika Perdue

Excused: Becky Saylor, Bradley Scott, Jessie Eaves

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

Announcements:

VT Engage – Robin Atkins reported that the Staff Senate will continue to support the food pantry for the VT Engage project. A list of needed items by the food pantry will be prepared and sent out on the list serve. December's Staff Senate meeting will be a food drive meeting. Several Staff Senators also expressed interest in a program to write letters to soldiers deployed overseas. Information on the letters to soldiers program will be distributed to those interested in participating.

Policy 1025 Review – Maxine Lyons reported that the Commission on Staff Policy and Affairs will be reviewing the content of the policy and the terminology used in the policy.

McComas Seminar - Tom Tucker reported Lori Anne Kink will chair the McComas Staff Leadership Committee.

Policy 4075 – Tom Tucker reported that the Staff Senate will discuss Policy 4075 – Accommodations of Employees and Applicants with Disabilities at the December Staff Senate meeting. The policy can be found at <http://www.policies.vt.edu/4075.pdf>.

VGEA (Virginia Governmental Employee Association) – Tom Tucker reported that representatives from the Virginia Governmental Employee Association will be speaking to the Staff Senate at the January meeting. VGEA is a lobbying group for State employees and additional information can be found at www.vgea.org.

Proposed Holiday Policy Change – Maxine Lyons reported that the Commission of AP Faculty did not have any concerns about the proposed change to the Holiday Policy. The Faculty Senate did not have any concerns about the proposed change to the Holiday Policy as long as it retained flexibility. The proposed Holiday Policy change will go the Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs (CSPA) at the next meeting and if approved, CSPA was move forward with a resolution. The resolution will go through the governance process and become effective upon approval by the University Council and the Board of Visitors.

Program:

Dr. Steger, President of the University, gave a very informative presentation on the State of the University. He praised the Staff for their hard work and commitment to the University. Dr. Steger mentioned several positive items the University has achieved recently, such as the University's undergraduate Landscape Architecture program ranked number one in the United States, that there were 1200 students with GPA's above 4.0 applying to the University this year, and that the fundraising campaign has received \$856 million towards the \$1 billion fundraising campaign goal. He informed the Staff Senate that the University is working with the State Senate and House Finance Committees to determine if it would be possible for the University to contribute to the State's cost reduction plan without participating in the one day furlough.

The Next meeting will be **December 17, 2009**. The speaker will be Gene Deisinger. The meeting will be held at 1100 Torgersen Hall.

With no more discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Hundley
Senate Secretary