

STAFF SENATE Minutes
Torgersen Hall Room 1100
Thursday, April 21, 2011
12:00 noon – 1:00 P.M.

Attending: Bonnie Alberts, Susan Archer, Jean Brickey, Dan Cook, Lori Greiner, Velva Groover, Karen Hall, Anna Hawthorne, Delbert Jones, Denise Jones, Becky Lilly, Maxine Lyons, Karen Nicholson, Wyatt Sasser, Robert Sebeck, Louellen Sharp, Sue Teel, Ken Wieringo, and Jon Wooge

Excused: Patricia Williams and Becky Saylor.

Opening: President Maxine Lyons called the meeting to order at noon. The agenda was adopted without change. The minutes were accepted as electronically approved.

Announcements:

Senators were reminded that the Staff Senate continues to collect non-perishable food for the Canned Food Drive and items for Micah's Back Pack.

Policies and Issues had nothing to report.

Jean Brickey, for the Communications Committee, announced that the Staff Senate page has been updated with details about Staff Appreciation Day, the James D. McComas Staff Leadership Seminar, and Open Enrollment for health insurance.

Jon Wooge reported that the Elections and nominations Committee completed the elections and will post the results shortly.

Susan Archer, on behalf of the McComas Leadership Seminar Planning Committee, reminded Senators to register soon because the opportunity was going to be opened up to the entire staff. A sidebar discussion raised issues about how to get the word out to staff members who are not on e-mail or list serves, most particularly the Blue List

Standing Committee Reports:

Sue Teel announced that the Staff Career Achievement Award Resolution received support of the Commission on Staff Policy and Affairs and will be presented at the June meeting of the Board of visitors. She also said that CSPA needs goals for next year and asked Senators to make suggestions.

Bonnie Alberts made a short report on the Employee's Spouse and Dependent Scholarship Committee met April 6, to review the 12 applications submitted for fall scholarships. The total amount available for distribution this fall is \$7,178. Kim O'Rourke (ex-officio member of the committee) related that Dr. Steger plans to supplement the \$7,178, but the amount of that supplement is was unknown at the time of the April 6 meeting.

Program: William C. Dougherty and Joe Hudson from Network Infrastructure and Services presented a broad picture of the planned replacement of the campus telephone system. The goal is Communications-Enabled Business Processes for the whole campus, a unified communications system enabling calling, messaging, conferencing, mobility, and collaboration that will replace the current telephone system installed in 1988-89.

The current system's operational integrity is of concern to Communications Network Services, and replacement parts are costly when they can be found. Older buildings on campus need to be totally re-cabled, other only need new switching rooms. The challenge is balancing the economics with business requirements and ever-changing technology.

Network Infrastructure and Services is a revenue-driven university auxiliary, and it receives no state funds. While students represent 80-90% of the data network use, they cover only 30% of the cost. When asked about the likelihood of an increase in telephone bills, both Dougherty and Hudson acknowledged that the departments pay an unfair share of the data network costs, but the anticipated cost of the new system spread over the next 3-5 years would required an increase in fees of \$15-\$20 million.

Our speakers also outlined how the Network Infrastructure and Services Advisory Sub-Committee has been assessing the needs in light of the various missions within the university, designing the new systems to meet those needs, evaluating equipment and establishing the implementation plan.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, May 19, in a location to be determined. The guest speaker will be Teresa Craig, Membership Development Director for VEGA.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan L. Archer
Senate Secretary