Staff Senate Minutes

September 8, 2003


ABSENT: Constance Alexander (excused), Sharon Chandler (excused), Kim Denton, Corintha Duncan (excused), Mary Duncan (excused), Debbie Fanning, Linda Fore (excused), Charles Forrester (excused), Donna Murphy (excused), Sue Speer (sick leave), and Carla Warner.

1. President Thacker called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed senators.

2. Guest: Dr. Paul E. Stanton, Jr., ETSU President – I want to thank Kathy Thacker for your service as president of staff senate this past year and all of the senators who also have served this year and I want to welcome the new senators who are coming in today.

I want to thank you for all of your efforts to trim the budget. Through your planning and pending no new impoundment we will do fine. We are moving forward with ETSU's off campus projects, for example, the building of the Gray fossil site (no ETSU dollars will be spent on this project all of the money will come from TDOT grants) it will have tours and an area where the digging can be watched as the scientists work. Also, the Medical Tech Corridor is coming together with 40-year leases to begin showing a profit in 2011 and will include 20 new buildings, which are among state approved. We are working closely with Northeast State and the Technology Center in Elizabethton for service learning.

Enrollment is up for first time freshmen and transfer students at an all time high. Increase is also noted with our graduate students.

We should know by the end of this year about the details of the lottery in order to begin in the Spring 2004 calendar year. We will not know the impact on total enrollment and the scholarships will be for $3000 each.

There will be no new raises this academic year, which was imposed by the state. We still have the raise plan that will be
reinstated when we are allowed too.

In November of last year health cost increased 25% and expected to be raised another 12% this year. Money was allotted in the budget to cover the added expense, which will cost a million dollars.

Phase II has started for BucRidge we will build 52 new apartments.

Dr. Wayne Andrews- OIT has been completed the switch from Collegis. We have hired 15 new ETSU staff. We have had positive comments as a result of the switch and we have saved thousands of dollars. We are working with the next legislative session to get bond approval for over 30 years or approval for 25 years in order to renovate the old library. The cost has gone up from 8.1 to 10.5 million dollars in one year's time.

3. President Kathy Thacker recognized the out going senators (Bonnie Burchett, JoAnn Fitzgerald, Mary Jordan, Billie Lancaster, Patricia Markland, Reed Sturdivant, and Shirley White) and thanked them for their hard work.

4. President Kathy Thacker passed the gravel to Staff Senate’s new president David Jones. A. President David Jones presented Kathy Thacker a plaque in appreciation for her services during the past year.

B. President David Jones welcomed the new staff senators (Joy Fulkerson, Kathy Brooks, Donna Murphy, Cindy Proffitt, Rita Taylor, Tom Hill, Andrea Stevens and Joe Webb) to Staff Senate.

C. Senator Kathy Smith was elected as president-elect. Senator Sue Taylor was elected to serve as the secretary. And Senator Charlie Forrester was re-elected at treasurer.

D. Senator Dr. Jane Jones was elected as the member-at-large.

5. Senator Tim Dills made a motion to change "Valerie Swartz resigned from staff senate" instead of "leaving ETSU" in the August 11th minutes. Senator Carolyn Bond seconded the motion after changes have been made and Senator Bobbie Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. President David Jones said that Senator Charlie Forrester (treasurer) called and said there was no change from last month treasurer report.

7. Committee Reports
A. Staff Development and Evaluations Committee – Kathy Smith-The office of Human Resources contacted me to let me know that the emergency closure policy will be approved soon and that it should be put in the handbook online. As previously decided by staff senate, the Staff Development and Evaluations Committee will do the updates to the handbook unless there is anyone that opposes. Human Resources also added some additions to the Sexual Orientation paragraph. The additions are in the last sentence after the word Resources. The last sentence now reads as follows: Additional information on this policy is available from the office of Human Resources, or in the Personal Policy Manual – PPP-62.

B. Staff Concerns & Grievances – no report

C. Committee on Committees – no report.

D. Elections Committee – Tim Dills-the election went smoothly and he welcomed the new senators.

8. Old Business – none


The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2003 in the Forum Room in the D.P. Culp Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m. Respectfully submitted - BettyAnn Proffitt, Secretary