Staff Senate Minutes

April 11, 2005


ABSENT: Thomas Hill (excused), Corintha Duncan (excused), Diana McClay (excused), Kim Denton (excused), Mary Duncan (excused), Darcy Martin, Terry Nelson (excused), Sherri Renfro (excused), Andre Stevens, Rita Taylor (excused), Cindy Weaver, Joe Webb

President Kathy Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

President Smith welcomed Drs. Wilsie Bishop and Steve Bader and Mr. Dave Mullins who gave a presentation of the Athletics Academic Program Report. Dr. Bishop stated that ETSU was at the top of the list for Tennessee Institutions and Division I Institutions. Also, she asked the Senate to take a look at the report content of the NCAA Division I Certification Self-Study, which is in three parts located on the S drive, and report errors to her directly. The site visit is scheduled for November, 2005.

President Smith introduced Lisa Moffett of the Tennessee State Employee Association who talked about new legislation going forth about keeping a percentage of insurance benefits for years of service. It was also noted that Carolyn Bond is the local president.

Approval of Minutes – A motion to approve February minutes was made by Karen Sullivan and seconded by Marcia Donnelson. Motion carried. A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Tim Dills and seconded by Betty Ann Proffitt. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report – No Report

Committee Reports

a) Staff Development and Evaluation – Senator Marcia Donnelson stated that the committee met with Rich Ashley from the Employee Development Center regarding a survey he is planning to do campus-wide which was distributed to the senate.

The committee also discussed establishing a new employee "mentoring" program. A review and update of the staff handbook was
talked about and it was suggested that the senate might do a one-on-one survey across campus to develop dialogue with staff to find out what concerns they might have or their opinions of the senate.

b) Staff Concerns & Grievances – Senator Karen Sullivan, stated their committee met on March 14 and 21st to respond to concerns expressed by Robert Calkins in the Department of Art & Design. A handout was distributed regarding three concerns and the recommendations. The senate voted to table the first and second concerns and recommendations until they can be studied further. The third concern, the committee made no recommendation and voted not to take on the issue.

With regards to the first and second concerns, Dr. Bishop recommended consideration of a new classification for part-time employees and also suggested that decisions be made for the organization not an individual.

A sub-committee was established to discuss the suggestions put forth by Dr. Bishop. The members are senators Carla Warner, Amy Bower, Kathy Smith, and Karen Sullivan.

It was suggested that Carolyn Bond take the third concern to TSEA.

c) Committee on Committees – Senator Judy Oaks asked for names for University Standing Committees.

d) Elections – No Report

Old Business

e) Staff Awards Picnic – Senators Trillis Mc Kee and Wanda Richardson asked senators for help with door prizes, and a volunteer sheet was passed around for workers between the hours of 2 PM to 4:30 PM. There will be Beach/Jazz Music for entertainment. Senator Tim Dills volunteered to chair the Staff Awards Committee.

New Business

f) Senator Karen Sullivan presented the report for the Staff Concerns and Grievance Committee.

g) Senator Betty Grice asked for volunteers to help with the Blood Drive on June 8, 2005. A volunteer sheet was passed around.

h) Dr. Franks from COM, who is also co-chair of the American Diabetes Walk, invited senators to come out and walk Sunday, April 17 at 12:30 PM at the Bristol Motor Speedway.
i) President Kathy Smith told the senate that Senator Terry Nelson is having knee surgery Tuesday, April 12th. Also, President Stanton broke his ankle and had surgery Saturday, April 9th.

President Kathy Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Alexander, Secretary