Staff Senate Minutes

December 12, 2005


ABSENT: Constance Alexander (excused), Pat Barnett (excused), Kim Blevins (excused), Sharon Chandler (excused), Laura Cooper, Denise Dunn, Linda Greenwell, Betty Grice, Cindy Lybrand (excused), Betty Ann Proffitt (excused), Sherri Renfro (excused), Wanda Richardson (excused), and Regina Tucker (excused).

President Renee Couch called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. President Couch introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Dave Mullins to the meeting. He spoke on the new conference that the University is now a member of (Atlantic Sun Conference). The conference has been in existence for 27 years. ETSU looked for a conference that shared similarities in sports and sponsorship. ETSU will be hosting the Men’s Basketball Conference the first week of March.

President Couch asked if there were any corrections to the October minutes. With no other corrections, President Couch asked for approval to the minutes. Senator Donna Murphy made the motion to approve and seconded by Kathy Brooks. The motion was approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Senator Trillis McKee reported a balance in the Thanksgiving food drive account of $971.00; a balance in the operating account of $2,980.11; and a balance in the Scholarship Foundation Account of $7,000.

Committee Reports:

A. Staff Development and Evaluations – Senator Marcia Donnelson reported that they were still working on the Smoking Cessation class. There would be no cost to the individual.

B. Staff Concerns and Grievances – No report

C. Committee on Committees – No report

D. Elections Committee – No report
E. Thanksgiving Committee – Senator Kathy Smith reported that 220 baskets were prepared. Have food leftover and that the committee would meet to decide who would get the Christmas baskets.

Old Business:

A. President Couch reported that Senators Kathy Smith and Michael Vaughn and she met to decide about the updates to the web page. She also asked that Senators Tim Dills and Kim Blevins to review the constitution to see if it needed updating.

B. President Couch asked about feedback from Staff concerning the Staff Convocation. Several that responded said that they got good response from their group. Senator Terry Nelson placed the motion back on the table to form a committee to look at ways to have the Convocation. Dr. Bishop suggested that maybe we could include the students in it. President Couch mentioned that when we come up with a plan that maybe Dr. Bishop would graciously help with it. Senator Carla Warner made that motion to form a committee. It was seconded by Senators Karen Sullivan and Kathy Smith.

New Business:

1. President Couch reported that she met with Jim Bitter, President of the Faculty Senate and John Sanders concerning the Dental Plan and the Vision Plan. On the Dental Plan the state pays nothing on the plan maybe we could get better coverage; the Vision Plan was too expensive and won’t pay for itself; the Flexible Spending Plan – the IRS allows $3600 to be sat aside each month but TBR allows only $2400; Domestic Partner benefits included on the State insurance plan.

2. President Couch mentioned that she thought that the Past President position needed to be added the Constitution as an officer position.

3. Nothing at this time on the Relay for Life.
Staff Senate Minutes

Page 3

December 12, 2005

Senator Terry Nelson made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm. The next meeting will be Monday, January 9, 2006, in the Forum Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Bond, Secretary