Agenda
Staff Senate Meeting
June 9, 2008
Forum Room
2:30 p.m.

Note to Senators: Please share the Senate agenda, minutes, and any other enclosures with your colleagues prior to the scheduled meeting. Senate meetings are open to all staff. Agendas, minutes, and attendance rosters are available on the Staff Senate website at http://www.etsu.edu/stsenate/default.asp

Present: James Batchelder, Lisa Blackburn, Carolyn Bond, Angela Brewer, Queen Brown, Robert Calkins, Cindy Canter, David Collins, Renee Couch, Tim Dills, Corinthia Duncan, Charles Forrester, Joy Fulkerson, Linda Greenwell, Angela Haire, Linda Lett, Donna Murphy, Stephanie Nave, Debbie Parks, Chuck Patton, Wanda Richardson, David Robinson, Sue Russell, John Sanders, Patricia Stafford, Vanessa Stephens, Carla Warner

Absent: Constance Alexander (excused), Kim Blevins (excused), Deanna Bryant (excused), Sandra Bundy (resigned), Denise Dunn (excused), Dilawar Grewal, Alison Johnson, Betty Ann Proffitt (excused), E Shea Renfro, Jamie Simmons (excused), Kathy Smith (excused), Debbie Starnes, Karen Sullivan

The meeting was called to order by President Lisa Blackburn at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes: Senate Linda Greenwell made motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2008 as amended. The motion was seconded by Senator Tim Dills and was approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Senator Jamie Simmons was absent, therefore, advised the balance in treasury as $117.17 as of May 28, 2008.

Dr. Fisher was the guest speaker. Dr. Fisher presented information regarding benefits when selecting the TCRS maximum retirement income option plan for any person hired after July 1, 1981. Dr. Fisher stated that any state/HE (Higher Education) employee who joins TCRS July 1, 1981 or after in non-contributory, therefore, there is no employee account balance. The funds remain with the employer. Another scenario presented is as an active employee the member should not select estate as the beneficiary since there is no account balance. The member should select a spouse (if there is one) or one other person. The employee should not select multiple beneficiaries.

Dr. Fisher handed out the Benefit Program Statistics report dated October 31 and the State Insurance Plan premium increase effective January 1, 2008.

There was a question and answer session afterwards.

Committee Report:

- Staff Development and Evaluation – Senator Kim Blevins was absent and present report later.
- Staff Concerns and Grievances – no report
- Committee on Committees – Senator Carla Warner will present report later.
- Committee on Elections – Senator Tim Dills deferred report to later.
• Thanksgiving Food Committee – Senator Jamie Simmons was absent and present report later.
• Picnic Committee – Senator Carolyn Bond stated the May picnic was the best. She received several positive comments. The most comments regarded the free appetizers prizes and the door prizes. Senator Bond mentioned more participation by all senators is required and thanked all those who participated to make this year’s picnic a success. Senator Bond expressed appreciation to Senator Linda Lett for her valuable participation in acquiring a majority of the door prizes. Next year a survey will be e-mailed to indicate when the annual staff picnic should be held.
• Blood Drive Committee – Senator Angela Haire reported the Blood Drive had 43 persons to participate and the goal was met. There was discussion regarding when to have the annual blood drive for next year so there will be more participation.

New Business:

Senator Tim Dills stated there are 13 college appointees under the EEOC categories. The senators whose term will expire are Senators Kim Blevins, Tim Dills, Denise Dunn, Patricia Stafford, Karen Sullivan, Charles Forrester, and Carla Warner. An e-mail will be sent along with a list of the EEOC 5 and 6 categories.

Old Business:

Senator Chuck Patton presented a brief summary of the parking committee. Dr. Collins met with the Johnson City transit to discuss BuShot options for the university and will be reported on later. Dr. Trogen completed a budget alternative and will present a report. The parking fees being this fall semester will be $50 for student and $80 for faculty and staff. Senator Patton asked for a show of hands who wanted him to continue to pursue the $50 instead of the $80 increase. The senators voted to continue to pursue.

President Blackburn stated a thank you letter was sent to the Gray Fossil Site.

Open Floor for New Agenda Items/Concerns:

President Blackburn requested suggestions for any future tours. Those items mentioned are the Governor’s Hall, VA campus Pharmacy College, and the newly renovated Culp Center.

Dr. Collins stated this will be John Sanders last meeting. Mr. Sanders will be leaving the university on June 20th. He took a position at College of Wooster in the Ohio area.

Adjournment – There was no further business to discuss. Senator Joy Fulkerson made a motion to adjourn. Senator David Robinson seconded the motion.

Please note: Next meeting Monday, July 14, 2008, CPA Ropes Course, at 2:00 p.m. Please send notices of non-attendance to Queen Brown (brownq@etsu.edu or 9-6146) Staff Senate Secretary and agenda items to Lisa Blackburn, Staff Senate President.