STAFF SENATE MEETING
MINUTES
Forum Room, DP Culp Center
February 8, 2010
2:30 PM

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/staffsenate/

PRESENT: Lisa Blackburn, Carolyn Bond, Sarah Bradford, Angela Brewer, Queen Brown, Deanne Bryant, Phyllis Cooper, Tim Dills, Charles Forrester, Joy Fulkerson, Crystal Gilland, Linda Greenwell, Angela Haire, Thomas Hill, Myra Jones, Janet Keener, Paul Lavoie, Susan Lilly, Candy Massey, Diana McClay, Joe Miller, Donna Murphy, Stephanie Nave, Margaret Pate, Chuck Patton, Betty Ann Proffitt, Shea Renfro, Wanda Richardson, Sharon Riddle, David Robinson, Sue Russell, Jamie Simmons, Patricia Stafford, Andre Stevens, Debbie Starnes, Karen Sullivan, Carla Warner

ABSENT: Constance Alexander (excused), James Batchelder (excused), David Collins (excused), Corintha Duncan (excused), Linda Lett (excused), Billy Robinson (excused)

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie Simmons at 2:30 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER: Senator Patton introduced Dr. Randy Wykoff, Dean, College of Public Health. Senator Patton stated Tennessee ranks 44th overall in the Nation for health. Dr. Wykoff came to ETSU about 2 ½ - 3 years ago and has seen the university through the transition of the breakup between Allied Health and Public Health and the accreditation period, in which they were just accredited this past year. Dr. Wykoff gave a presentation on The Impact of a College of Public Health at ETSU. Dr. Wykoff stated we have very significant health challenges that prevent us from enjoying the quality of life we have and there are things we can do to improve those health statistics. The accreditation in October gives the state of Tennessee one more tool in addressing its health challenges. Dr. Wykoff talked about the impact of the College of Public Health, why it is important for ETSU to have a College of Public Health, and why it provides the educational opportunity that’s relatively rare. It’s going to have an economic impact on the region, and more importantly it’s going to have an impact on the health status of our region. The educational one is the easiest one to see. Most people have no idea that public health education is as rare as it is. There are 129 medical schools in the United States, 106 Schools of Pharmacy and 43 Schools of Public Health. Out of 2,618 four year universities only 43 have a College of Public Health. ETSU is the only school in Tennessee to have a College of Public Health. Having a College of Public Health here helps create a big picture of the university that makes a difference in our community and job market. It is estimated that by the 10th year of operation, the college will be generating 41 million dollars a year, helping create 377 new jobs every year, most of that here in upper east Tennessee. In closing Dr. Wykoff stated that if all Americans had access to the very best health care, which they don’t, we would reduce our premature death rate by about a tenth. If we really want to improve health we have to get involved in prevention.
MINUTES: Senator D. Robinson made the motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2010. Motion seconded by Senator J. Miller. The minutes were approved as distributed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Senator Debbie Starnes reported a balance of $5,428.41 in the operating budget. There were no expenditures.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
- **Staff Development and Evaluations**: No report
- **Committee on Committees**: No report
- **Staff Concerns and Grievances**: No report
- **Committee on Elections**: No report
- **Holiday Drive Committee**: No report
- **Staff Picnic Committee**: Senator Russell reported there was a vendor sign up sheet available. President Simmons stated that even though you are not on the committee if you know of vendors you would like to ask for door prizes, the committee would appreciate any help. If you send letters to vendors, Staff Senate will provide letterhead and stamps.
- **Blood Drive**: Will be meeting this afternoon.
- **Website Committee**: No report.
- **Committee for Review of Staff Awards Process**: No report.

OLD BUSINESS
- Visibility Committee (Visitation Committee) – Senators Margaret Pate and Candy Massey are the chairs of this committee. They would like to do lunches in the cafeteria to give university staff the opportunity to meet their senators and address any concerns they may have. President Simmons stated we would be at a table as you come into the cafeteria and possibly have a suggestion box for staff to allow them to address issues. A vote will be taken to determine how often we will do these lunches. The choice will be 2 times a week, 3 times a week or 5 times a week. President Simmons tried to explain that by working no more than 23 days a month and by having 43 senators, that a senator would need to commit to no more than one day every month or so to this endeavor. Senator Cooper asked if the staff placed suggestions or concerns in the box how would we get in touch with them to let them know the concern had been addressed. President Simmons noted that they would have to ask the staff if they preferred a senator get in touch with them they would need to include an email or phone number. Senator Bradford commented when she eats lunch there, she sees the same people and she wasn’t sure if we would get a new group of people on a daily basis unless we advertised we were going to be there. President Simmons responded that it would be advertised and a suggestion was made to invite administrators once a month. An announcement would be sent out that they would be there. We don’t necessarily have to be in the cafeteria, we could be in the Atrium or the Cave instead. Senator Fulkerson also commented senators needed to be seen at various campus functions as well. Senators Pate and Massey have written a mission statement for this committee.
NEW BUSINESS

- International Advisory Committee – Set up by Dr. Pyles. Senator Riddle has agreed to serve on this committee representing Staff Senate. Senator Patton attended the first meeting. This committee is about all things international. This committee not only deals with students coming to ETSU from other countries but ETSU students going over seas as well in conjunction with university business. The university is getting ready to undergo a recruiting campaign to bring more international students on campus. The ARA stimulus money gave them about $29,000 to jump start their recruiting efforts. The committee plans on meeting once a month on the first Tuesday of each month and will meet more regularly if the need arises. The committee will be comprised of representatives from all facets of the university community. They have a scholarship fund for ETSU students to go over seas. Senator Lilly asked if the committee would be helping to decide who gets the scholarship money in the future. This committee does not decide but they have a committee within international studies that will be making that decision.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS/CONCERNS

- Senator Bond stated the Governor had made a proposal for state employees to receive a 3% across the board one time bonus. She also commented the Library will be closed the week of spring break.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We are scheduled to go to the ballgame on Friday night; we will be in E section. President Simmons has about 20 tickets left.
- President Simmons asked for suggestions on places to meet. Some suggestions were Forensic Pathology, Centennial or Governors Hall.

There being no further business, Senator K. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Senator Fulkerson.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Brewer
Secretary

The next meeting is Monday, March 8, 2010 @2:30 pm
George L. Carter Train Museum

Please send notices of non-attendance to brewera@etsu.edu and agenda items to simmons@etsu.edu