STAFF SENATE MEETING
MINUTES
Forum Room, DP Culp Center
September 14, 2009
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: Constance Alexander, Lisa Blackburn, Carolyn Bond, Sarah Bradford, Angela Brewer, Queen Brown, Deanna Bryant, Cindy Canter, Phyllis Cooper, Tim Dills, Charles Forrester, Joy Fulkerson, Linda Greenwell, Thomas Hill, Janet Keener, Paul Lavoie, Linda Lett, Susan Lilly, Candy Massey, Diana McClay, Joe Miller, Donna Murphy, Margaret Pate, Betty Ann Proffitt, Shea Renfro, Wanda Richardson, Sharon Riddle, David Robinson, Sue Russell, Jamie Simmons, Patricia Stafford, Andre Stevens, Karen Sullivan

ABSENT: James, Batchelder (excused), Kathy Carder (excused), Angela Haire (excused), Myra Jones (excused), Stephanie Nave (excused), Chuck Patton (excused), Debbie Sarnes (excused), Carla Warner (excused)

The meeting was called to order by President Wanda Richardson at 2:30 p.m.

Richardson continued by presenting a power point entitled Wanda’s 3-Legged Stool, noting that each peg represented the 3 vital items needed to sustain LIFE at ETSU: Students, Faculty, Staff. Our Students are the heart of ETSU, the Faculty are the refreshing water and the Staff are like the air we breathe. In essence, Food (Students), Water (Faculty), and Air (Staff) are the necessities needed to sustain life on our campus and in our community. Richardson challenged the senators to Start Something! Richardson stated we could Start something perhaps by taking a class, talking to someone on campus, listen to someone, helping someone, if you see litter on campus pick it up, or do a random act of kindness, but Start Something!

President Richardson welcomed the newly elected members to the senate. She also recognized those members whose terms ended and thanked them for their committed years of service. She also thanked those who are continuing their service in the senate.

GUEST SPEAKER: President Richardson welcomed Dr. Paul E. Stanton, Jr., to the meeting. Following are highlights from Dr. Stanton's comments:

- The Voluntary Buy-out has left a void in the workplace since many of the positions were left unfilled; however, everyone is working together to cover the loss
- Student enrollment is up 2600 over the last 4 years
• Tuition increased 6%
• The traditional student is on the rise, which creates a need for more housing - another new dorm will be constructed near the Physical Plant.
• Even with the stringent guidelines, stimulus money has been helpful in bandaging the needs on campus, but after it’s gone the university could be facing a 25% reduction.

Dr. Stanton concluded by reminding the group of his open door policy and encouraged anyone wishing to speak with him to feel free to do so.

GUEST SPEAKER: President Richardson presented an overview of the Stimulus Buc$ Challenge, which is an internal competitive grant initiative. President Stanton has authorized $500,000 of the ETSU federal stimulus money to fund projects to reduce our budget, avoid future costs, or generate revenue.

ETSU faculty and staff are encouraged to develop proposals to use these one-time funds to support academic and/or administrative programs, services, or processes. Grants awarded should result in operational efficiency and effectiveness, educational and support service opportunities and improvements, and fund-raising efforts. Richardson encouraged everyone to visit http://www.etsu.edu/stimulusBUCSchallenge/default.aspx for further information.

MINUTES: Senator Linda Greenwell made the motion to approve the minutes of August 10, 2009. Motion seconded by Senator Joe Miller. The minutes were approved as distributed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Senator Cindy Canter reported a balance of $5,881.08 in the operating budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
• Staff Development and Evaluations: No report
• Committee on Committees: No report
• Staff Concerns and Grievances: Senator Brewer reported that the committee is reviewing methods in which to notify the ETSU community when a staff family member is taken ill or a tragedy occurs.
• Committee on Elections: Senator Greenwell welcomed the newly elected members to the meeting and reported the online voting was a tremendous success.
• Holiday Food Drive Committee: Senator Simmons reminded everyone that due to the current economic condition and the cutbacks on campus, the need for the food drive has a potential to be the biggest ever.
• Staff Picnic Committee: Senator Bond reported the attendance of the picnic was the largest in history. She thanked everyone and encouraged all to participate in the planning of next year’s event.
• Blood Drive: No report
• Website Committee: Senator Dills reminded everyone to periodically check the website for updates relating to the committee and the senate as a whole.
ELECTION OF 2009-2010 STAFF SENATE OFFICERS:

- **Office of President Elect:** Senator Chuck Patton
- **Office of Treasurer:** Senator Debbie Starnes
- **Office of Secretary:** Senator Angie Brewer
- **Member at Large:** Senator Susan Lilly

OPEN FLOOR FOR NEW AGENDA ITEMS:

- Each senator was encouraged to sign up for a minimum of two committees in addition to working on the Picnic Committee.
- Senator Richardson reminded the group of the attendance requirements and whom to notify in the event of not attending a meeting.

President Simmons presented Past President Richardson with a plaque recognizing her service and dedication during this past year. Richardson thanked the Staff Senate for the opportunity and privilege to have served as the President of the Staff Senate this past year and looks forward to serving as Past President. Richardson stated that this past year we have seen many friends and co-workers take the voluntary buyout and we must all work together to make ETSU better place for our Students, Faculty and our Staff.

The gavel was formally passed from Richardson to Simmons.

There being no further business, Senator Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Senator Blackburn.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Russell
Secretary

The next meeting is Monday, October 12, 2009 @2:30 pm
Forum Room, DP Culp Center

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