



## THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

### SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE STAFF COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 28, 2005

The eleventh regular meeting of the Staff Council for the academic year 2004-2005 was held in the University Room (BB 2.06.04) at 8:30 a.m. with Venetta Williams presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance.

Members present: Lisa Blancas-Olivares, Kim Brandt, Chris Chipps, Lachelle Dixon, Maria Espericueta, Carolyn Motley, Carmen Ortegon, Cindy Orth, Trish Roberts, Dee Russell-Terrell, Sonia Saenz, Anne Speights, Mary Lou Spillers, Rosalinda Stead, Velma Tristan, Steve Wagner, Venetta Williams.

Members absent: Rebecca Alvarez, Patricia Dunn, Suzy Gray, Fred Hample, Elnora Kennedy, Minnie Martinez, Ann Roberts, Don Swinson, Roger Terry.

II. Minutes of the June 23, 2005, meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. Opening Remarks

Venetta Williams briefed the Council on the Employee Advisory Council meeting held in Austin last month. The EAC voted to change appointments to 3-year terms; Venetta is asking the Staff Council to vote at the September meeting to allow her to finish out her term with the EAC although she will no longer be on Staff Council. Venetta will provide the Council members with copies of the legislative bills that were passed this session.

IV. Report of the Executive Board Activities

The Executive Board finalized plans for the August Staff Council meeting.

V. Committee Reports

A. Communication Committee: No report.

B. Employee Benefits/Compensation Committee: Trish Roberts is following up with Human Resources to find out why the Staff Council flyer is not being given out at New Employee Orientations. She has had no response so far from HR.

C. Elections Committee:

1. Lisa Blancas-Olivares reported that the elections process was a very intense manual process. The committee needs to find a new way to conduct elections, possibly electronically.

2. Voting results were announced. There were 26 members elected to Staff Council; 9 members remain from the current roster whose terms expire in 2006. Official letters will be sent out today; current members who were reelected were given their letters at the meeting. The top two alternates in each area will be notified.

D. By-Law Committee: By-law changes are ready to be sent to President Romo for approval.

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business

- A. The August meeting will be on August 10. Cindy Orth passed around two lists to RSVP for the meeting and to sign up for breakfast food contributions. The special treat for Staff Council members will be free chair massages for two hours that day. Anne Marie's will cater the reception for the August meeting. The members present voted for the chicken lemon cream dinner.
- B. Items to be discussed at the next meeting will include an emphasis on attendance for both returning and new members, commitment to meetings and committees, and a description of each committee's responsibilities. A commitment letter will be developed for each member to sign acknowledging their understanding of the commitment and participation required of members of Staff Council.
- C. The members discussed incentives that may be made available to Staff Council members or to staff in general. One idea was to get a business to sponsor the Staff Council by providing t-shirts that could be worn on special occasions. The Council asked about getting plaques for new members; last year's members did not get plaques. The Council will need to request this through Mr. Kennedy; the plaques will have to have the years of appointment. If the plaques are done through Facility Services, they may be able to waive the labor costs.
- D. The members discussed various businesses that offer discounts to UTSA staff (Schlotsky's, McAllister's on DeZavala, EZ's). Cindy Orth will check to see if we are able to advertise these discounts on our website.
- E. Venetta Williams asked for two volunteers to serve as Staff Marshals during the Fall Convocation on August 22. Trish Roberts and Lisa Blancas-Olivares volunteered. Rosalinda Stead also volunteered and will be named as alternate.
- F. Since there are now more representatives from the Downtown Campus, the Council needs to look at having some meetings Downtown. We need to make the facility reservations now, so we will start looking for locations for the 05-06 meetings. Suzy Gray had offered a meeting room in the Rec Center for the meetings. Velma Tristan will follow up and let us know at the next meeting.

G. Cindy Orth announced the UTSA Bowling Night to raise funds for women's athletics. This will be held on Monday, August 15. More information can be found on UTSA Today.

VIII. Next meeting: August 10, 2005, at the Recreation Center (Studio Blue), at 8:30 a.m.

IX. Meeting adjourned.