



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE STAFF COUNCIL MEETING OF March 23, 2006

The seventh regular meeting of the Staff Council for the 2005-2006 academic year was held in the Recreation Center (Studio Blue) at 8:30 a.m., with Cindy Orth presiding.

I. Call to Order

Members present: Stefanie Barlow, Chris Chipps, Veronica Cortez, Sharon Cropper, Lachelle Dixon, Patti Dunn, Maria Espericueta, Laurie Gay, Amie Guerrero, Sabina Kapoor, Blanca Muniz, Cindy Orth, Derrick Ozuna, Rachel Pullen, Shirley Rowe, Dee Russell-Terrell, Corinne Sabo, Nina Sosa, Anne Speights, Melissa Tenberg, Velma Tristan, Maria Villarreal, Steve Wagner, Lori Zerr

Members absent: Kim Brandt, Edna Dominguez, Janie Garcia, Minnie Martinez, Belinda Munoz (excused), CeCe Ortegon, Trish Roberts (excused), Rosalinda Stead (excused)

II. Minutes of the February 23, 2006 Meeting Reviewed & Approved

III. Opening Remarks

UT System Employee Advisory Council update: (1) The UT Board of Regents has been very productive this year. (2) At our next Staff Council meeting, we should discuss issues that we may bring to the EAC, because at the July EAC meeting, each institution should bring three to five issues that the institution deems important; these will be discussed with content experts at the EAC. (3) At the April EAC meeting, a special legislation session will be called to address employee relations.

IV. Old Business

Regarding a question raised at our last meeting, a meeting is being called between the Business Services Office and the Office of the Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs to discuss possible faculty/staff dining plans with Chartwell's.

V. New Business

Various international students have reported difficulties in processing their documentation with the Human Resources office, since this office is primarily located off-campus. We can make inquiries into the HR presence at the 1604 and DT campuses.

Is it possible to have UT staff education tuition assistance be applied to more than six hours per academic year? The UT System is considering broadening the scope of the staff education tuition assistance. We may be able to draft a recommendation that addresses this.

Various employee/students have reported difficulties with gaining entrance to various on-campus events, due to *UTSA Card* discrepancies. We will contact the *UTSA Card* office to check on how the cards are issued.

Should we have an “issues” committee which would address staff issues not necessarily fitting into the long-term project focuses of the other Staff Council committees? Those interested have signed up for this committee.

Should our website have a standard form to serve staff questions? This was voted on and approved; we will work with the Communications committee to see this through.

VI. Committee Reports

Employee Benefits/Compensation Committee, with Veronica Cortez as Chair: This group is working to set up a meeting with Human Resources to discuss FMLA and workers’ comp issues, and to discuss uniformity throughout the UT System.

Communications Committee, with Rosalinda Stead as Chair: Our group photo has been added to our website.

Elections/Membership Committee, with Dee Russell-Terrell as Chair: This group will meet soon to formulate plans.

Fund Raising Committee, with Melissa Tenberg as Chair: (1) We can make two scholarship awards for the Fall. (2) Staff Council voted to adjust the Memorandum of Understanding – which addresses our scholarship award – to read that two scholarships, one undergraduate level and one graduate level in the amount of \$250 each, will be awarded to Classified or Administrative & Professional employees who are benefits eligible in accordance with university policy. (3) The Foresters organization has agreed to sponsor a Staff Council fundraising event, such as an ice cream social.

Bylaws Committee, with Steve Wagner as Chair: This group plans to meet soon.

VII. Next Meeting

April 27, 2006, in the Campus Recreation Center (Studio Blue) at the 1604 Campus at 8:30 a.m.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned