



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE STAFF COUNCIL MEETING OF August 10, 2006

The final regular meeting of the Staff Council for the 2005-2006 academic year was held in the Recreation Center Studio Orange at the 1604 Campus at 8:30 a.m., with Cindy Orth presiding.

I. Call to Order

Members present: Marlon Anderson, Stefanie Barlow, Kim Brandt, Bradley Chandler, Chris Chipps, Carlita Contreras, Veronica Cortez, Sharon Cropper, Lachelle Dixon, Patti Dunn, Kim Ellicks-Center, Janie Garcia, Roy Garza, Sarah Gonzales, Carol Gonzalez, Neva Hughes, Minnie Martinez, Belinda Munoz, Cindy Orth, Derrick Ozuna, Rachel Pullen, Trish Roberts, Shirley Rowe, Dee Russell-Terrell, Corinne Sabo, Nina Sosa, Anne Speights, Rosalinda Stead, Amy Strong, Melissa Tenberg, Cissy Thorpe, Maria Villarreal, Lori Zerr

Members absent: Maria Espericueta (excused), Laurie Gay, Sabina Kapoor, Blanca Muniz, CeCe Ortegon, Susan Sandoval (excused), Velma Tristan (excused), Steve Wagner (excused)

II. Minutes of the July 26, 2006 Meeting Reviewed & Approved

III. Opening Remarks & Potluck Breakfast

This meeting is a retreat for new, continuing and outgoing members. Discussed role of Staff Council in the University, and the expectations of the council's members.

The most significant Staff Council contribution this year to the University was the formation of the Staff Council Scholarship.

IV. Old Business

The UT System-wide Employee Advisory Council will now have UTSA Staff Council representation from Cindy Orth and Patti Dunn. At the recent EAC meeting, it was discussed that the Board of Regents has a plan to look into across-the-board salary increases. Regarding tuition assistance increases, the Chancellor is considering how this could work, since this is a top issue from many System components and since it would require additional funds. Regarding time off to take classes, this varies throughout the components and is an ongoing process. Regarding flexible schedules due to the cost of driving, most universities have supervisors approving these schedules; this is an ongoing issue. Wellness processes are also prevalent concerns, and commitments are being made to develop these processes for employees.

V. New Business

Signage inside the HSS Building is outdated; this is being forwarded to the Issues Committee.

VI. Committee Reports

Employee Benefits/Compensation Committee, with Veronica Cortez as Chair: Will leave employee education benefit concerns at the Staff Council level. Will concentrate on professional development, reclassifications and career ladders.

Communications Committee, with Rosalinda Stead as Chair: Will compose an interest story about the Staff Council for next year. Verifying that all website information is up-to-date.

Elections/Membership Committee, with Dee Russell-Terrell as Chair: This has been a busy year for this committee, and the committee wishes to thank the elections volunteers. Looking forward to an electronic elections format for next year.

Fund Raising Committee, with Melissa Tenberg as Chair: Focusing on raising funds for the Staff Council Scholarship. Will add donation link onto the Staff Council website. Fundraising will continue at the next commencement, and volunteers are needed.

Bylaws Committee, with Steve Wagner as Chair: There is currently no push for bylaw adjustments.

Issues Committee, with Shirley Rowe as Chair: Have researched UT Austin's processes of handling issues. Currently reviewing possibly providing shuttle service to include the Downtown Campus and the University Heights location.

VII. Catered Lunch

VIII. Special Presentation

Outgoing members received certificates of appreciation. Also, the Staff Council Scholarship was awarded this year to student-staff members Carlita Contreras (undergraduate) and Bridgedette Garza (graduate).

IX. Meeting Adjourned by Incoming Chair Patti Dunn