

The University Staff Advisory Council
Minutes
March 18, 2009

Representatives and Alternates Attending:

Ingrid Frazier – District 14 – rep - Chair
Aris Obar – District 9 – rep – Secretary
Kelley Hartnett – District 10 - rep
Page Chapman – District 5 – alternate
Glenda Bennett – District 7 – alternate
Chris Green – District 8 – alternate
Rich Legler – District 5 – rep
Katy Cline – District 10 – alternate
Jan Harp – District 12 – alternate
Warren Garlock – District 8 – rep
Monica Davis – District 3 – alternate
Linda Speed – District 2 – rep
Leslie Nelson – District 11 – rep
Paula Hibbert – District 1 – rep
Brandy Monts – District 12 – rep
Dayna Lambright – District 1 – alternate
Beth Bruce – District 13 – alternate
Jesse Acosta, Chief of Staff
Gregg Lassen, V.P. for Business Affairs
Joe Vorsas, Dir. of Human Resources

Reps and Alternates Not Attending:

Janet Robertson – District 9 – alternate
Tammie Cooper – District 4 – rep
Pam Taylor – District 4 - alternate
Michelle Flanagan – District 2 – alternate
Pedro Flores – District 6 – alternate
Melanie Mogle – District 14 – alternate
Michael Seale – District 6 – rep
Pam Jones – District 15 – rep
Sheryl Marshall – District 3 – rep
Michael Gannaway – District 15 – alternate
Andrea Jenkins – District 7 – rep
Jennifer Adams – District 13 – rep
Angie Beekman – District 11 - alternate

Ingrid Frazier called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

A motion was made by Katy Cline to approve the minutes of the February meeting and was seconded by Chris Green.

Old Business

Congratulations were extended to Melissa Hill from Educational Technology Services as the winner of the UT Tyler Star award for March 2009.

Gregg Lassen expressed his appreciation for the patience of all staff as we adjust to the new temperature settings in campus buildings. He advised that the changes that have been made have already resulted in a \$10,000 savings in energy costs and will make a meaningful contribution to the budget. He also advised that the south parking lot near Ornelas Hall will be partially opened soon to students. He agreed to follow up on Kelley Hartnett's request for additional trash receptacles to be located near the volleyball court.

Chris Green gave an update on the recycling initiative. He said that Bob Hepler has agreed to move the outdoor collection area over by the tennis courts. The committee has been working with the SGA who has agreed to donate \$300 to fund a fence around the collection area. Members are asked to email Chris Green with the number of bins that will be needed for their respective areas. Each department will be responsible for getting their items to the recycling area. Bob Hepler advised that they have students who transport the items collected at the Patriot Center to the plant during the school year and he will coordinate transport during the summer months. Jesse Acosta advised that, due to the non-cost effectiveness of recycling, President Mabry does not support a limited approach to recycling on campus. He will, however, consider supporting a more comprehensive, multi-pronged approach to recycling. This plan should include education and conservation and not just the recycling of paper and cans. Chris was asked to prepare an electronic questionnaire that could be made available to all staff to accurately gauge the support for this initiative.

Jesse Acosta advised the council that the new UT System Chancellor, Dr. Francisco Cigarroa, will be visiting our campus on April 3rd. He will be meeting with various campus groups including the SGA, Faculty Senate and USAC. All council members were invited to meet with Dr. Cigarroa at 11:00 a.m. in UCN 222.

Ingrid advised that PECAT (People Educating Communities about Tobacco) may be interested in providing permanent signs to UT Tyler to be placed at the entrances to campus buildings. These signs will remind smokers that smoking is not allowed closer than 25 feet to building entrances. More information should be available at the next meeting.

Ingrid also advised that the issue of spousal scholarships is not going to be pursued any further due to the economic situation at this time.

An update was given on the progress of committees working on University Appreciation Week. Katy advised that the theme of this year's UAW is Renew, Revitalize,

Regenerate. The university employee luncheon is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and will be catered by Cancun's restaurant. Friday activities will include sweet treats, a cake walk, dunking booth, canoes, kayaks and other fun activities. Aris advised that arrangements for Monday through Thursday activities are completed. LIB 401 has been reserved for Mon – Wed. afternoons in case of rain. Plans are to have a WII gaming system available. The signup database is planned to open up for registration on Monday, March 30th.

New Business

Due to the resignation of Angie Beekman as chair-elect, a request for nominations was sent to all members. Katy Cline was the sole nomination received. Nominations were also requested from the floor but, none were made. A motion was made by Jan Harp that Katy Cline be elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Paula Hibbert.

Dayna Lambright has been appointed to replace Margo Duncan as alternate for District 1.

Katy Cline advised that the annual Patriot Days Faculty/Staff vs. Students softball game will take place at 5:15 p.m. on April 2nd. Volunteers are requested to signup to play for the Faculty/Staff team. The game is scheduled for 7 innings or 55 minutes.

Aris gave an update on the Employee Advisory Council meeting that she and Michael Gannaway attended in Austin on Mar. 5th and 6th. Representatives attended from all of the University of Texas campuses and the health care components. Dan Stewart, Assoc. Vice Chancellor for Employee Benefits and Services updated the council on several issues before the legislature. He also updated the council on health care issues and advised that UT System will be unveiling a new health care benefit later this spring to enhance the current insurance package. An overview of emergency management was presented by Phil Dendy, the director of Risk Mgmt for all of the UT components. He reviewed the response of the different UT institutions to the devastating effects of Hurricane Ike on the campus of UTMB in Galveston. He particularly recognized UT Tyler for our efforts in operating the medical needs shelter during the Hurricane Gustav evacuation. Various committee reports were made during the two days. The Wellness committee heard a presentation from Rolando Roman, the Wellness coordinator for UT System. He advised that UT System will be rolling out a new program for the fall that will offer employees the opportunity to take up to 30 min per day 3 times per week for wellness activities based on meeting certain conditions. More information will be available as plans are finalized on the Living Well website at www.livingwell.utsystem.edu. Employees are encouraged to read the Living Well newsletters that are periodically sent out by UT System for beneficial wellness information.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2009 in ADM 301 at 2:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Linda Speed to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m. and was seconded by Paula Hibbert.