

The University Staff Advisory Council
Minutes
May 20, 2009

Representatives and Alternates Attending:

Ingrid Frazier – District 14 – rep – Chair
Katy Cline – District 10 – alternate – Chair-elect
Aris Obar – District 9 – rep – Secretary
Page Chapman – District 5 – alternate
Warren Garlock – District 8 – rep
Monica Davis – District 3 – alternate
Linda Speed – District 2 – rep
Leslie Nelson – District 11 – rep
Dayna Lambright – District 1 – alternate
Pam Jones – District 15 – rep
Sheryl Marshall – District 3 – rep
Beth Bruce – District 13 – alternate
Melanie Mogle – District 14 – alternate
Michael Gannaway – District 15 – alternate
Andrea Jenkins – District 7 – rep
Paula Hibbert – District 1 – rep
Belinda Dean – ex-officio
Joe Vorsas – ex-officio
Gregg Lassen – V.P for Business Affairs

Reps and Alternates Not Attending:

Janet Robertson – District 9 – alternate
Michelle Flanagan – District 2 – alternate
Pedro Flores – District 6 – alternate
Michael Seale – District 6 – rep
Jennifer Adams – District 13 – rep
Angie Beekman – District 11 – alternate
Kelley Hartnett – District 10 – rep
Chris Green – District 8 – alternate
Rich Legler – District 5 – rep
Jan Harp – District 12 – alternate
Pam Taylor – District 4 - alternate
Glenda Bennett – District 7 – alternate
Brandy Monts – District 12 – rep
Tammie Cooper – District 4 – rep

Ingrid Frazier called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Melanie Mogle to approve the minutes of the April meeting and was seconded by Paula Hibbert.

Old Business

All staff were invited to enjoy snow cones outside of the UCN on May 14th. 95 snow cones were served. Volunteers were requested to help serve snow cones again in June. Andrea Jenkins volunteered to help and the date was originally set for June 11th. (The date has been changed to June 18th to accommodate the awarding of the June UT Tyler Star Award).

An update on the Bookstore committee was given by Gregg Lassen. He advised that requests for proposal have been distributed and the committee is now waiting for these to be completed and returned.

Gregg Lassen updated the council on the issues of pay raises and the summer four day work week. He said that pay raises this fall are unlikely since it is still largely unknown as to how much money the university will receive from the legislature. The legislators and public are not sympathetic to higher education institutions in the current economic climate and seem to feel that universities must work on ways to become more efficient. Given the prevailing attitude right now in Austin, the administration feels that giving university employees the option of working a four day work week this summer would be politically devastating. He really encouraged all staff members to talk about UT Tyler and what we do here to promote the importance of the university to the surrounding community.

New Business

Ingrid announced that Kelley Hartnett, rep for District 10 is leaving the university. Katy Cline will move from alternate to the representative position for District 10.

Discussion was held on the possibility of changing the election policy and shortening the terms of council members. This will be pursued further at the next meeting.

The Executive committee meeting met on May 14th. Ingrid shared with the council that the Cost Containment committee advised that UT Tyler will have a sizable shortfall in our 2008-2009 budget. She asked that members submit ideas on how the university could save additional costs. A suggestion was made that electricity costs could be saved by turning off the tennis court lights when not in use as well as the lighted scoreboard. Gregg Lassen said the university is under heavy pressure to save costs wherever possible. Consideration is being given to cutting costs by reducing custodial services and possibly changing the hours for Service Solutions to day time only. He also advised that he personally tries to save electricity by using a single desk lamp in his office instead of the overhead light.

University Appreciation Week 2010 has been set for the dates of April 19-23, 2010. Suggestions for the USAC summer activity were requested. Last year, we provided snow cones and nachos on the deck by Harvey's and it seemed to be well received. Longview and Palestine will have separate summer functions. Further discussion will be held at the June meeting.

Council members were asked for input on selecting a presenter for the Staff Development Workshop scheduled for November 2010. Ingrid will contact the President's office to find out what our expected budget will be for next year's activities so that we can allocate funds for a speaker.

The UT Tyler Star Award for May was awarded to Jimmy Spanko, Maintenance Worker II at the Physical Plant.

The next meeting will take place on June 17th in ADM 301.

A motion was made by Dayna Lambright to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Michael Gannaway.