

SUU Staff Association Minutes
Thursday, January 16, 2014
Registrar's Conference Room

Attendance: Julie Larmore, Nellie Lee, Mindy Benson, Ron Cardon, Barbara Rodriguez, Paula Lambeth, James Loveland, Brandon Rasumssen, Sonn Berrett, Sheri Lopez and Steven Irving (Library, Faculty Senate),

Guests: President Wyatt and Jacob Askeroth

Absent: Daniel Bishoff

Call to Order: Julie called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. and welcomed all.

Items of Business

- I. Review of Action Items from December –
 - a. Welcome Wagon: Patricia Palmer, Natasha Bartlett & Megan Jackson were contacted. Barb is still trying to connect with Erica Bascom and Daniel wasn't present to report on Nathan Houle.
- II. Approval of minutes –
 - a. Julie called for motion to approve December 12, 2013 minutes, Barb made the motion, Sheri seconded. All in attendance approved the minutes.
- III. Treasurer Report – Sheri (Handout)
 - a. Nothing has changed. However we've used 9 of the 15 bereavement plants purchased through Jim Crouch. Jim will be retiring in June. We need to find out if his replacement will continue the service.
 - b. The UHES reimbursement still hasn't come in, Julie will check with Bruce Barclay.
- IV. Committee Updates/Assignments
 - a. Training – In Daniel's absence, Sheri reported that training is scheduled for Spring Semester. They are also in contact with Greg Powell for the possibility of adding a customer service training.
 - b. Parking Advisory – Julie indicated parking moved to facilities as of yesterday (Jan. 15).
 - c. Bookstore Advisory – Julie asked Sonn to visit with Shon Spevak in the ticket office regarding SUU Adidas merchandise and other ideas.
- V. Welcome Wagon
 - a. Susan Lewis – Accountant I – Controller's Office
 - b. Robert Takeno – Assistant Football Coach - Athletics
 - c. Aaron Fernandez – Assistant Football Coach - Athletics
 - d. Kyle Cook – Electrics & Sound Supervisor – Theatre Arts/Dance
- VI. Legislative
 - a. UHESA Day at the Capitol – February 6. Julie will look into who will be paying for the van. The departure will most likely be 6:00 a.m. and return around 5:30-6:00 pm. Barb volunteered to drive.

- VII. President Wyatt – 11:45 am
 - a. Introductions of Staff Association members.
 - b. Julie explained the structure of the Staff Association, our mission and goals.

- VIII. Items of concern and goals of the Staff Association –
 - a. To become a reviewing part of governance.
 - b. To create a Council bringing bodies together; Staff Association, Faculty Senate & Student Government.
 - i. Coordination of support for issues from each area.
 - ii. Serve as an advisory committee. Not the final decision makers.
 - c. SUU tuition being the highest in the state –
 - i. Students transferring to other schools.
 - ii. Students choosing not to attend SUU because of the cost.
 - iii. Student's upset about high course fees after they do choose SUU.
 - d. Staff morale is eroding
 - i. Budget cuts made on the projected 10% declined enrollment due to the missionary age change. (The actual number was a lot less).
 - ii. Insurance change and an increase in premiums.
 - iii. Faculty and Staff required to purchase a parking permit for lots (even with an SUU plate).
 - iv. Athletics & Arts ticket benefit taken away.
 - 1. Benefit created comradery within an office from attending events.
 - 2. Employees took their families. Are we are missing out on recruiting children of employees?
 - v. Tuition benefit cut – Employee pays fees. Spouses pay half tuition.
 - vi. Addition of high level administrators while cutting support staff.
 - vii. CUPA guidelines too restrictive.
 - viii. Retirement benefits changing.

- IX. President Wyatt's responses –
 - a. Expand the President's council to include representatives from each area; Staff, Faculty & Student
 - i. Monthly meetings.
 - ii. Involve the council in the strategic plan and academic roadmap.
 - b. SUU tuition
 - i. We have hit the ceiling.
 - ii. Do we pride ourselves in being small, hands-on. If so it should show in every aspect.
 - iii. Course fees are a hidden cost to students.
 - c. Staff morale
 - i. Look in to the ramifications of all benefit cuts. How did they play out –
 - 1. Parking permits – High stress issue. What are funds used for?
 - 2. Ticket benefit – Could be an IRS issue. Are other options available?
 - 3. Tuition benefit – What effect has it had financially.
 - 4. Insurance is changing nationally. SUU is currently putting out for bid.
 - d. President Wyatt asked for a joint recommendation from Faculty & Staff.
 - e. SUU needs to grow and we need to work together to make that happen!

- X. Steve Irving will report to faculty senate next week.

- XI. Julie expressed Gratitude to President Wyatt for his visit and willingness to listen to our concerns. He commended the Staff Association for their efforts and will look forward to an invitation to attend a monthly meeting in the future.

Motion to adjourn by Barbara, Paula seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm