Date and Location: March 27, 2015, Dick Smith Library Multipurpose Room


Substitutes:

This meeting is the Staff Council Retreat, replacing the regular March Staff Council meeting. The Staff Council Retreat was originally scheduled for February but weather necessitated rescheduling it.

The Retreat began at approximately Noon with lunch by Natty Flats and members trying on shirts for the new Staff Council shirts.

Lacie Harris took roll and polled the members on who had Staff Council name badges so we can order them for those who need them.

Elaine Chew introduced the Staff Council Handbook to the group.

Ben Kunze led the discussion and election of our incoming President-Elects. Becky Gray was unanimously voted as President-Elect for the remainder of the 2014-15 year. Kurt Mogonye was voted as President-Elect for the 2015-16 year.

Ben led the group in a game of Texan Bingo, where the participants were asked to find out things about everyone else to fill out a bingo card. Questions included who owns a goldfish, who’s into crafts, and who has five or more speeding tickets. No one was able to claim five or more speeding tickets.

Staff Council members returned to the Handbooks and discussion on the various tasks of the Committees commenced.

Elaine led the discussion of the Staff Development committee. She said they are going to add office training on programs like Outlook and Word, offering tricks and tips for those interested; this was prompted by suggestions from staff members. The upcoming Staff
Development and Wellness Day was discussed (May 22?) as was a staff gift (umbrella? Sodexo Cup?). Cindy and Sharon Alexander volunteered to help.

Elaine led the discussion of the Employee Appreciation committee. Staff Council members discussed ways to reach out and welcome new employees (email from S.C. President, a “welcome card” that lists the perks), possibly have a S.C. member stop by and personally invite new staff to meetings. BJ, Micah, and Morgan Hammond said they’d be interested in helping.

Ben led the discussion of the Hospitality committee. Micah volunteered to chair this committee which is responsible for the annual Holiday Showcase (time commitment from October through first week of December to get it organized), and door prizes for the monthly meetings. Elaine offered storage space for the Showcase signage and supplies in the Central Receiving area. Alyson volunteered to assist with this committee.

Frances talked about the Healthy Campus representative position; there have not been any recent meetings that she’s attended. BJ mentioned that there are about 100 Fitbits left for staff to apply for through the Fitbit Initiative.

Elaine led the discussion on the Scholarship committee. They meet twice a year to go over a list of qualified applicants that is sent to them by the Scholarships office. She said they simply plug in the numbers, approve the amounts, and send letters out. Committee members would need access to Banner. Frances volunteered to chair this committee.

Lacie led the discussion about the Public Relations committee. Members discussed ways to increase visibility of the organization including inserting Staff Council in existing conversations, having one “big ticket” item per semester that is of interest to staff members to generate and facilitate conversation across the campus community (ie: campus carry, classification of employees that are 50/50 job assignments, sponsorship of green cards for staff, etc.). Kurt, Morgan H., and Ashley (works with Elaine) would be interested in helping with this committee.

Other topics of interest were discussed amongst the group. Morgan H. pointed out that for the employees who are 50% faculty/ 50% staff, they aren’t really identified with either group and thus couldn’t be recognized through the Employee Recognition awards. BJ said Staff Council needs to really pursue the new staff members and get them involved or at least aware of what there is available to them. The Staff Council Member of the Year award was also discussed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.