



STAFF SENATE/SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MARCH 23, 2009

1:30 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE  
ROOM, LIBRARY #622

CHAIR	Susan Duggins
ATTENDEES	Committee: Susan Duggins, Brenda Allen, Lillian Brown, Allison Bryant, Camile Currier, Tasha Fisher, Dave Nicklas, Chris Ringo, Cori Scroggins and Lindsey Wilkerson;  Guest: Robin Logan
ABSENT (EXCUSED)	Pamela Saulsberry

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	<p>A meeting of the Staff Senate was held on March 23, 2009 in the Administrative Conference Room, Library 622 and called to order at 1:30 pm by Susan Duggins, chair. Susan welcomed the membership and introduced Robin Logan, Executive Director for University Planning and Analysis.</p> <p>Minutes of the previous meeting held March 11, 2009 were reviewed by the committee and approved.</p> <p>Robin Logan provided the staff senate with a brief overview and explanation of the staff representation by category indicated on page 3 of the Shared Governance Study handout distributed last week for our review. Following the presentation and a question and answer period, Robin was excused from the meeting.</p> <p><b>Old Business:</b> Susan announced that Lindsey Wilkerson put together a website for the staff senate and the link is: <a href="http://www.ulm.edu/staffsenate">www.ulm.edu/staffsenate</a> . The website has the photos of committee members and will post the meeting agenda and minutes of the committee meetings. The meeting agenda will be posted prior to each meeting, however, the minutes will be posted after approval by the committee. An e-mail address for the committee has been set up which goes directly to the chairman. The e-mail address is: <a href="mailto:staffsenate@ulm.edu">staffsenate@ulm.edu</a> . Susan will monitor and report activity as needed to the committee.</p> <p>HB 27 Resolution was discussed. The press conference was held earlier in the day and was well attended by many members of the committee. Dr. Cofer accepted our resolution and thanked all groups presenting resolutions for taking action to voice their opposition to the gun bill.</p> <p>Dave Nicklas informed the staff senate that House Bill No. 1 was not acceptable as written by the House Appropriations Committee and has been postponed for now. The structure of the Higher Education section was not acceptable and considered to be unconstitutional. HB1 authored by Fannin is designed to provide for the ordinary operating expenses of state government for fiscal year 2009-2010.</p> <p>Dave also updated the staff senate on the budget situation for ULM regarding anticipated budget cuts. It is anticipated that there will be \$219M in budget cuts for Higher Education. At best for 2009-2010 budget, we could expect a 20% budget reduction across the board from where we were in July 2008.</p> <p>Susan reminded the staff senate that we have roughly five months to complete our charge to meet the August deadline. Discussion was held and it was decided that we would work as a group to formulate guidelines regarding the role and function, membership, meeting frequency, officers, committee structure and other areas as needed. At each scheduled meeting we will plan to present our notes and findings on certain designated topics, then formulate a summary for each specified topic at the conclusion of the meeting. We discussed reserving the big plasma screen and media cart from Academic Affairs to use during our meetings.</p>
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<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>Minutes - March 23, 2009 (continued)</b>	
	<p><b>New Business:</b>  Susan assigned two topics for discussion at the next meeting. It was also suggested and agreed upon that everyone would do their research and make notes to present to the group when we meet in two weeks. Susan asked that we give some thought as to the role, purpose, function and mission of the staff senate and forward any comments to her by Wednesday, April 1.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Shared Sick Leave Program for Faculty and Unclassified Staff</li> <li>2) Employee Recognition Program – give some thought for recognizing employees for accomplishments other than just for years of service.</li> </ol>	
Next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2009 @ 1:30 PM, Administrative Conference Room, Library #622		
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.	
<b>Items to review for next meeting:</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Shared Sick Leave Program for Faculty and Unclassified Staff; and Employee Recognition Program (other than years of service).	Committee	April 6, 2009