OSU STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

June 14, 2000  408 Student Union  1:15 pm


Excused: Carlile, Foust, Mann, Overton,

Absent:

Mary Kay Jennings called the meeting to order, the new members were seated and Louisa Payne called roll. The May minutes were approved. The June agenda was approved.

Executive Group Update – Harry Birdwell, Vice President Business and External Relations

Natalea Watkins has been released from the rehab center and is now at home. She attended the executive group meeting yesterday. She’s doing as well as can be expected. She plans to return to work part-time in a couple of weeks.

The Ombudsman letter was sent to the Chair of SAC. The policy letters will be written and reviewed by legal counsel. They will be almost identical to the ones concerning faculty and the Ombudsman position. The board of regents in the September meeting should approve them. Dr. Hernandez has already included staff into her scope of responsibility.

Criminal background check issue. OSU Legal Counsel has sent back language to help eliminate elements of the policy discriminatory against staff. A meeting will be set up for faculty and staff to review the new policy. The new policies will probably not be finalized until after the fall semester begins.

Budget This year is not the worst year in history, but it is certainly not the best either. The legislature has allocated $40 million new dollars to higher education. Hopefully, most of those new dollars will be put into the standard formula rather than being allocated to special projects. The university is finalizing our budget recommendations. The top priority is compensation for staff and faculty. There should be a raise program. How much of a raise program is still up in the air.

New student apartments Construction is ahead of schedule. All new beds are filled with a 200 to 300 persons waiting list.
Branch Campus Reports

OSU-COM – Marsha Howard  OSU-COM used the idea of the carnation sales for Secretary’s Day on their campus and netted $250. Their annual staff picnic was held on June 2. Everyone had a great time despite the rain. Elections were held and 10 vacancies were filled.

OSU-OKM – Homer Breedlove  The last roof damaged in the hailstorm from last year was being repaired when the rain began last week. Enrollment for the summer semester is now final. New enrollment is up but total enrollment is down about 50 students.

OSU-OKC – No report

OSU-Tulsa – Marcia Hays  OSU-Tulsa sponsored a computer recycling drive through the Environmental Department. They set up in a parking lot so participants could simply drive through and drop off their old computers. If the computers worked they were donated to non-profit organizations. If they didn’t work they were disassembled and crushed. The first day, Saturday, they received 2,000 computers. After the weekend publicity, they received 500 more. Computers are still trickling in.

Report of Standing Committees

Publicity—Diana Bateson  No report.

Awards and Recognition – Nancy Swann  The final fundraising total for the year is $3264.30. The difficulty will be getting the money from the scholarship fund account into the endowment account.

Policy, Benefits, and Budget – Tonya Magness  Ann Matoy has expressed an interest in working with the PB&B committee on rewording OSU’s policy on FMLA leave. Tonya will coordinate with Mary Kay and the new committee members to set up the meeting.

The University Budget Committee met. Tonya reported on some of the major changes that may directly affect staff. Business and External Relations reported property insurance, health insurance, OTRS, FICA, and utility expenses are all up. Staff distinguished service awards and continued staff training have been added as recurring line item budget requests.

The Dean of Arts and Sciences would like to renovate South Murray like Willard Hall. He believes that like disciplines i.e. Social Sciences, Humanities & Arts, Mathematical Sciences, etc. should be housed together and taught in separate areas of campus for the convenience of students and faculty. They asked for a 2% increase in faculty.

Academic Affairs reported that the site licenses for Microsoft and choosing an Anti-virus software would be major expenses in their area for the next fiscal year. Site licenses for software are increasing.

The College of Business has experienced the largest increase of student credit hours. There is a huge need for expansion of classrooms and renovating the COB as the building is now thirty five years old.

Rules and Procedures – Myra Traynor  Traynor called for a vote on the recommendation presented last month. After some brief discussion, the recommendation passed.
Report of University Committees

Faculty Council Update – Craig Satterfield  Council had a long presentation on research and how it affects faculty.

There was mention of some feedback from administration and legal counsel on the criminal background check issue and an intention to meet with Dr. Edgely to review that feedback but no indication of plans to share the information with Staff Council. Matoy stated that there was no intention of excluding SAC. No meetings had been scheduled and decisions have been made. SAC would, of course, be included in any meetings in the future.

Old Business

Scholarships recipients  The committee met in May and reviewed applications. There were 10 applicants. Nine of them were awarded $300 ($150 per semester). The awardees are: Rhiannon Battles, Amy Ferguson, James Hellwege, Carla James, Dorothy Mclaughlin, Theodora Pratt, Dawn Smalley, Vicky Stalling, and Susan Weir.

Historically, last year there were eighteen. This year the application was sent out with the newsletter rather than a separate mailing. This may account for lack of response. The committee recommends that next year the applications be mailed in a separate mailing and perhaps extra publicity about the availability of the scholarships.

New Business

Elections  There was only one nomination for both the offices of Chair and Vice Chair. Both Mary Kay Jennings and Nancy Swann were elected by acclamation to the offices of Chair and Vice Chair respectively. Nominations for Secretary were Camille Jardot and Joyce Zorba. Camille Jardot was elected. Nominations for Treasurer were Sherry Curd and Melba Knight. Sherry Curd was elected.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm. The Staff Advisory Council will meet July 12, 2000, 416 Student Union Case Study 3 at 1:15 pm.