

TO: Staff Senate Members  
FROM: Catherine Murphy  
DATE: August 26, 2008  
SUBJECT: Staff Senate Meeting, August 6, 2008

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In Attendance: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Barrett, Ms. Boock, Mr. Cawley, Ms. Cullen-Brown, Ms. Davis, Ms. Fetsko, Ms. Gownley, Mr. Grigorescu, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hurst, Ms. Knott, Mr. Kretsch, Ms. Mascelli, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Notarianni, Mr. Owens, Mr. Parry, Ms. Rupp, Ms. Rupp, Ms. Schofield, Mr. Schofield, Mr. Skutnick, Ms. Stavisky, Ms. Vaccaro, Ms. Watson, Mr. Wetherell, and Ms. Winslow.

Excused: Ms. Bennett

Absent: Mr. Wooden

Welcome:

The meeting began at 10:05 a.m. in the Board Room of Brennan Hall. Mr. Murphy asked Ms. Janice Rupp to open the meeting with a prayer.

1. Review of Minutes from July 9, 2008 meeting:

Ms. Winslow made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Skutnick seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

2. Mr. Murphy welcomed and introduced Fr. Pilarz.

Fr. Pilarz began by thanking everyone for their willingness to serve the University. He stated that he recognizes that this is another responsibility we have each taken on, and emphasized the importance of having our voices heard.

Father explained the new Governance Structure and its importance in promoting collaborative work and improving communication across campus. Father explained that he and our liaison will bring our concerns and issues to the AC and to the Board of Trustees.

Father explained that he was here today to ask us what we want in a liaison. He said that it was important to him to hear from us before he makes his decision. He asked that we focus on qualities not personalities.

A summary of what was said follows. We want someone:

- who will advocate for us;

- is approachable;
- interested in what we do;
- who understands our diverse make-up;
- who is not afraid to bring up unpopular issues;
- who is enthusiastic to be our liaison/not just part of their job.

Father thanked everyone for their input. He said that he will make his decision before our September meeting.

Father was asked if we would be able to give him feedback on the choice of the liaison after a year, he said yes.

Mr. Murphy thanked Father for taking the time to meet with us.

### 3. Committee Reports:

- Communication Committee: Ms. Davis reported that she had contacted the members of the committee and they will be meeting soon.

The Communication Committee will make a recommendation to the Senate on what system they think we should use to communicate to the campus and to each other. (Xythos, Website, etc.)

- Staff Development Committee: Mr. Hurst reported that he contacted everyone on the committee and they will be meeting soon.
- Social Events & Community Building Committee: Ms. Vaccaro reported that she has contacted the members of the committee and everyone agreed to serve.
- Staff Recognition & Excellence Awards Committee: Ms. Watson reported that she made contact with all the members of the committee and everyone agreed to serve.

### 4. New Business:

- The sign-up sheet for the Alternate Work Week Committee was passed around. Mr. Barrett the Chair of the committee asked anyone who signed up to be on the committee to stay after the meeting for a few minutes.
- Name Tents will be made with a larger font and will be available for the September meeting.
- A sheet was passed around and everyone was asked to indicate the best way to contact them (i.e. phone, email, etc.)

- Mr. Grigorescu will send Ms. Murphy the Website address for the Staff Senate. Ms. Murphy will send the address to everyone to review. Any comments send to Ms. Davis.

5. President's Report:

Mr. Murphy reported that:

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- PAIRO contacted him requesting a list of Staff Senators to be included in the FACT Book;
- Mark spoke with Mr. DeSanto about the budget for the Senate. Mr. DeSanto was on vacation but did take the call. As he recalled the budget was approved for \$4000 or \$5000. He felt the President of the Senate would be in charge of the budget.
- Next year we will become part of the budget process. This is when we can request more funding.
- The details of the budget can be sorted out once Mr. DeSanto is back on campus.

Ms. Vaccaro asked Mr. Murphy to check the budgets of the Faculty and Student Senate. Mr. Murphy said that he was not comfortable doing that, and suggested that we wait until we have a liaison to explore other avenues that may be open to us.

Mr. Murphy emphasized that the best way to ask for funding is to submit a detailed proposal.

Some senators expressed concern that a \$5,000 is not enough to accomplish the things that the Senate is hoping to do (i.e. programming, awards, development, etc.)

Mr. Murphy will invite Mr. DeSanto to come to the next Executive Committee meeting to discuss the matter.

Ms. Davis asked Mr. Murphy if he could send his report before the meeting. Mr. Murphy said that his report will be sent with the agenda and minutes.

Ms. Murphy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Skutnick seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectively submitted by:



Catherine Murphy  
Staff Senate Secretary