



Staff Senate Meeting April 5, 2006

the Voice

April 5, 2006, Staff Senate session discussed the following items:

The Chair opened the session by introducing Mike Harwood, University Architect; Andy Willis, Assistant to Chancellor for External Affairs; and Janet Boisvert, Assistant Director of HR Systems.

Mike Harwood gave a presentation of the 2006 Master Plan. The Master Plan is a decision-making tool for implementing change to "a campus of neighborhoods and paths". The impact issues include, transportation, enrollment, capital plan (looking ahead to Bond II), campus appearance, and sustainability. A transportation task force, which has already met twice, was formed to address the changes to North campus. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.ncsu.edu/facilities/univ-arch/>.

Andy Willis spoke about the activity of the General Assembly, including this year's election cycle, the timetable, and the budget. There will be 25-30 primaries statewide primarily in House. In the last mid term election only 25% of voters voted. Currently, the Governor is preparing the budget with a proposed 3-4% salary increase. Then the budget will be passed onto the Senate and should be passed on to the House before the end of May. President Bowles is strongly campaigning for improvements in health benefits, employee salaries, and enrollment funds in continuation budget for universities and community colleges. The education lottery is split into 45% for local school construction, 45% for class size reduction, and 10% for higher education aid -16 universities and 159 community colleges. However, the lottery is not a stable source of budgetary income.

Janet Boisvert discussed the password changes for 3 administrative systems. The username and password that you use to login to a number of applications changed on Monday, March 27, 2006, for the Administrative Portal, the Financials System, and the Human Resources System. You now use your Unity username and password to login to these systems. With the new system, once you sign-on to the Administrative portal, you can enter the Financial system or the new HR System without re-authenticating. Note that after one hour of non-use or inactivity, you will be required to re-authenticate using your Unity password. If you have trouble changing your password, or logging in to any of the applications, contact the NC State Help Desk at 515-HELP (4357) or the ACS Solutions Center at 513-1178.

State Health Plan announces new PPO (Preferred Provider Option) open enrollment May 22nd - June 30th. The North Carolina State Health Plan is offering a PPO in order to address State Health Plan members' requests for greater affordability and choice in obtaining health care coverage. The coverage will take effect October 1, 2006. Additional details are available at: <http://www.ncsu.edu/news/PPORelease.pdf>

Staff Senate Open Forum The 2006 Open Forum was a success. We want to thank everyone that was able to attend and give your feedback. We hope to see you all again next year. If you have any ideas for speakers or topics, please submit them at our website: http://www.ncsu.edu/staff_senate/submit_issue.htm.

Staff Senate Contact Information:

Please remember this is your Senate and your issues and concerns are important to us. If you do not know your Senator, visit our website at http://www.ncsu.edu/staff_senate.