



Staff Senate Meeting October 4, 2006 *the Voice*

October 4, 2006, Staff Senate session discussed the following items: The Chair opened the session by introducing speakers Kevin MacNaughton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities, Dr. Tracey Ray, Director, and Felicia Baity, Assistant Director for Multicultural Student Affairs, and Yvette Griffin, Director and Joe Williams, Assistant Director for Human Resources Benefits Department.

Kevin MacNaughton reported on the progress of various construction projects approved through the Bond Program.

- Only three new construction projects have yet to be started.
- The new focus of the department is to improve outdoor spaces in both Main and Centennial Campuses. See the new Free Expression Tunnel as an example.
- The Facilities department is now striving to create low-cost parking options for those whose jobs require them to begin work very early in the morning.

Dr. Tracey Ray and **Felicia Baity** discussed exciting new programming from the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of African American Undergraduates at NCSU. The Opening Celebration on Wednesday, October 18, at 3:00 pm at the Stewart Theater in the Talley Student Center will feature a historical overview, a tribute to the first students, and a panel discussion. For more information about this event, visit <http://www.ncsu.edu/msa/goldenanniversary.php>.

Barbara Carroll, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, reported on a comparative benefits survey that was conducted between schools in the UNC system and peer institutions. The survey included medical, dental, and vision benefits, defined contribution plans, defined benefit plans, and tuition benefits. Contact the Human Resources office for the results of this survey.

Yvette Griffin and **Joe Williams** of the Benefits Section of Human Resources described modifications to the new offerings from the State Health Plan.

- Under the new PPO plan, up to 30 mental health visits are covered per benefit year, with an available appeals process for additional visits. Visit the Benefits website to see additional changes to the mental health portion of the health plan: http://www7.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/benefits/health_nav.asp
- NCFlex open enrollment period runs from October 2nd through November 3rd. Note that using the Health Care Flexible Spending Account can reduce your costs for covered expenses through pre-tax deductions. Locate a copy of the Benefits Guide and Instructions here: http://www7.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/benefits/pdf/ann_enroll.pdf.
- Steps to Effective Pre-retirement Strategies (STEPS) is the new and improved financial planning and retirement workshops forum held each Fall and Spring. Topics include College Savings Planning, Personal Financial Planning, and Retirement Planning for Young Families, in addition to workshops for employees nearing retirement. Register for a workshop at <http://www.ncsu.edu/hr/benefits/workshops/default.asp>.
- Flu Clinics will be available on campus October 23rd through November 14th and are free to State Health Plan members with photo ID and insurance card. To register, visit <http://www7.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/benefits/enrollment/flushots/>.

Campus Police will hold an information session regarding the departmental accreditation process on Monday, November 6th at 7:00pm in the Blue Room at the Talley Student Center.

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.