

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY-approved version
Staff Senate Meeting
Faculty Senate Chambers, D.H. Hill Library
Wednesday March 1, 2006

Attending: Valerie Ball, Jon Barnwell, JC Boykin, Bob Brinson, Tracy Brown, Jeff Cable, Barbara Carroll, Angie Chiatello, Debbie Douglas, Kathy Fuller, Albert Genovesi, Cathy Harvey, Michelle Healey, Willie Healy, Pat Hill, Miriam Hines, Carol Horne, Debbie Hunt, Thomas Hunter, Carrie Levow, Carina Lockley, Lucy Mabry, Felicia Mangum, Todd Marcks, Laura Massengill, Tom Mease, Richard Palmer, Terry Price, Sara Reese, Patty Routh, Phyllis Royal, Valerie Sameshima, Christy Scheid, David Serxner, David Setser, Brenda Shelton, Rob Stevenson, Mel Stoss, Lee Thayne, Rodney Vinson, Corrinna Watkins, Melissa Watkins, Leroy Wilkins, Gail Willis and Sandee Zechman

Absent: Shelia Ange, Corrie Cadwallader, Randy Colby, Nicole Harrell, Janet Harris, Sherry Mosher, Samantha Parrett and Natalie Worth

Guests: Chad Austin, News Services; Terree Kuiper, Human Resources

Call to Order: The 8th meeting of the 11th session was called to order at 10:02am.

Guest Speaker: Kevin Rice, Assistant Director for Training Services, Employee and Organizational Development

Dr. Rice expressed gratitude for the opportunity to address the Staff Senate to promote the new QuickStart University Business Practices Program. This certificate program was developed following an employee's suggestion and covers the basic business practices and processes of NCSU. The program includes four full-day modules scheduled one-week apart; cost is \$40 and is open to all employees. Dr. Rice distributed hard copies of the program's outline and upcoming schedule. The first program class series begins on April 6th; the second on May 4th. Registration information and program particulars can be found at <http://www7.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/tod/quickstart.asp> or by contacting Dr. Rice at 515-4285 or Carina Lockley at 515-4280.

Dr. Rice also announced the upcoming March 20th deadline for Pathways Program applications.

Guest Speakers: Terry Wood, Vice Chancellor of University Advancement and Paul Eberle, Associate Vice Chancellor of Advancement Services

Vice Chancellor Wood expressed gratitude for the opportunity to address the Staff Senate and give a review of past and current fundraising campaigns. The first capital campaign, nicknamed the "kitchen sink" campaign, ran from 1988-1993 and raised over \$200 million dollars. As funds were received they were spent. Following this campaign more thought was put into how to best spend campaign contributions to leave a legacy for the University's future. The second campaign, Campaign for NC State Students, ran from 1995-1999 and raised \$128 million dollars. This campaign had monetary and non-monetary goals and kept its focus on endowments for students. The current Achieve campaign will run through June 30, 2008. This campaign met its goal of \$750 million dollars prior to its public announcement; it has raised \$900 million dollars so far. Funds are expected to exceed \$1 billion dollars.

Associate Vice Chancellor Eberle provided comparison data of funds received for student endowments from four different sources between 1995 and 2005. He also provided a breakdown from each college, the percentage of giving from each category of supporters, and the designation of the funds. Many donors designate their donation specifically for scholarships, fellowships, faculty support, faculty research, facilities, equipment, or program development. He added that a small portion of donations are undesignated. Campaign coordinators are promoting endowments for the remainder of the campaign.

Roll Call: A roll call was performed by Debbie Hunt to ensure accurate attendance records.

Approval of February 1, 2006 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved with two corrections.

Budget Report: Corrinda Watkins, Executive Assistant to the Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources:

Ms. Watkins reported that a balance of \$4,575.92 remains which includes two outstanding commitments. Election costs will soon begin to be incurred.

Administrative Report: Barbara Carroll, Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources:

Ms. Carroll distributed a list of questions and answers from the State Health Plan (SHP) about its new Preferred Provider Option (PPO). The Open Enrollment period for the new plan is likely to be in summer 2006 with an effective date of October 1. Plan members may choose to remain in the existing indemnity plan. She gave a brief overview of the new plan, which will feature an extensive network of providers, including virtually every major medical center in North Carolina, as well as almost 90% of primary care physicians and 85% of the specialists in the state. The PPO compares favorably to the current SHP, offering a new "employee+spouse" tier; opportunities for lower monthly premiums; and no deductibles or co-insurance (just a flat-rate co-payment) for services like doctor's office visits. There will be three variations of the PPO offered ("basic," "standard," and "plus" coverage options), at different monthly premium rates. Ms. Carroll expressed her belief that UNC faculty and staff concerns about healthcare had been heard by SHP and positively acted upon. PPO plan information will soon be available on Human Resources' website. Two questions were raised about this new option's effect upon current enrollment in flexible spending plans and supplemental health insurance plans.

Ms. Carroll also reported that Provost Nielsen and Vice Chancellor for Finance & Business Charlie Leffler continue planning toward an on-campus childcare facility. Extensive fundraising efforts will almost certainly be needed because State funds cannot be used for such a project. It is estimated that realization of an on-campus center could take between five and eight years. In the meantime, the University has issued a request for proposals (RFP) to partner with existing centers in the community to provide guaranteed slots for children of NC State faculty & staff members.

Committee Reports:

Chair:

The Chair has attended meetings of the Faculty Senate, the Achieve Campaign, the Staff Senate Executive Committee and the University Budget Advisory Committee. She also attended the Campus Police-sponsored Polar Plunge which raised money for the North Carolina Special Olympics.

The Chair attended the Board of Trustees meeting on February 17th and reported Board members are appreciative of visitors and employees showing interest in their agenda topics. The Chair believes that it is important for the Staff Senate to remain visible at these meetings. The Chair gave a photographic slide show of the November 2005 Staff Senate-planned trip to hurricane-ravaged Ocean Springs, Mississippi to help with rebuilding efforts and reported it was well-received by Board members.

The Chair announced the Student Senate will meet today at Witherspoon Student Center and she plans on attending.

The Chair will again participate with Gulf Coast rebuilding efforts by joining the 2nd Staff-Senate planned trip to this region.

The Chair announced the Guest Speakers for the April 5th meeting are Mike Harwood and Andy Willis. Mr. Harwood will address the Master Planning process and Mr. Willis will give a legislative update.

The Staff Senate Open Forum will be on March 9th from 9:00am-12:00pm in Witherspoon Cinema. Senators were strongly encouraged to attend and to invite their constituents.

The Chair has plans to participate in the next UNC System Staff Forum Video Conference on March 10th. This conference offers a means for Staff Senate Chairs to keep in regular contact to discuss issues and concerns.

The next all constituent forum is scheduled for March 16, 2006.

Vice Chair:

The Vice Chair reported that she is continuing to channel Open Forum questions to Mel Stoss, Co-Chair of the Public Relations committee, to allow time to categorize / distribute them in preparation for the March 9th Open Forum.

The Vice Chair will route a recently received Issue of Concern to the Chair of the Resources and Environment Committee and a suggestion for fine money payback to the Staff Senate ad hoc committee charged with reviewing suggestions from the campus community about this issue.

Governance:

Committee members are seeking help with the process of sending out nomination ballots for the upcoming election. There was 2nd reading of the proposed by-laws change. A vote was taken and the motion carried to change the start date of the election process.

Human Resources:

Several committee members have expressed frustration with not being able to move forward with several initiatives. It was announced that the textbook project is moving forward however monetary resource difficulties remain.

Committee members requested additional information to clarify particulars of essential personnel with regards to the upcoming University closure during Winter Break. Department leaders and Human Resources staff members were designated as being crucial for clarification. Committee members expressed the importance of publicizing this forthcoming closure to staff members.

Diversity:

Committee members are continuing their research efforts and are fine tuning their proposal to include diversity training into employee work plans. Committee members will work with Kevin Rice for possible implementation.

Public Relations:

The redesign of the Staff Senate website has been completed and the brochure is ready for distribution. The 2005-2006 Staff Senate group photo will be taken at the April 5th meeting.

Attendance at the March 9th Open Forum was encouraged. Evaluation forms were composed and will be distributed to participants to supply feedback.

Resources & Environment:

Committee members continue their efforts regarding increasing recognition and awareness of building liaisons.

Committee members are finalizing details for the upcoming rebuilding trip to Ocean Springs, Mississippi. Participants will leave on Friday March 3rd and return on March 8th.

Legislation Liaison:

Three legislative members have been confirmed to participate in next week's Open Forum.

Old Senate Business:

The ad hoc committee formed to review and recommend suggestions on how the University could pay the potential \$4 million dollar fine money shortfall has received many suggestions. Committee members were charged to review suggestions from staff members and compose a letter to University Administration to include those suggestions deemed viable.

As a reminder, Staff Senators who are eligible for re-election may nominate themselves.

New Senate Business

A motion was raised and a vote of Senate members was taken on the position of the Staff Senate to support the University Energy initiative which includes closing the University for one week during the December 2006 winter break.

A current Staff Senator raised a concern about Staff Senate Alternates not automatically being promoted following a Senator's retirement yet are promoted when the position opens up due to other causes. The Governance Committee will review this suggestion and possible by-laws change and will respond back to the issuer of this concern.

Announcements

The Men's Baseball game on Friday March 3rd is an Employee Appreciation Event. Snacks and beverages will be served. Senators were encouraged to attend this event and to invite their constituents

Adjournment:

The 8th meeting of the 11th session was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Next Staff Senate Meeting:

Wednesday April 5, 2006
10:00am-12:00pm
Faculty Senate Chambers
D.H. Hill Library

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Wednesday March 15, 2006
10:00am-12:00pm
Room 1115, Administrative Services I Bldg

Submitted by:

Miriam Hines, Vice-Chair
Debbie Hunt, Secretary
Judith Strickland, Administrative Secretary