Texas Tech University Staff Senate
Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2009

Call To Order: 2008-2009 Staff Senate President, Ron Nail
3:00 PM, Senate Room, Student Union Building,

Officers Present: Ron Nail, President
Tamara Ginter, Treasurer

Pledge: Ron Nail led the senate in the pledge

Roll Call: Present 34 of 60 Senators.

Absent: Chris Leisinger, Len Markham, Elizabeth Massengale, Kyle Clark, Mac Cooper, Jessica Carrillo, Jerry Perez, Beverly Pinson, Kar Sata, Sammy Arguello, Kay Hill, Sharon Yeates, Ashley Arenivas, Becky Evens, Donna Burt, Sandy Gellner, Marci Beasley, Judy Easterwood, Steve Allsup, Ron Schulz, Brad Jury, Linda Champion, Randy Hawkins, Alicia Marez, and Frances Watson.

Quorum: 56% of the Senate Body is in attendance, a quorum was not present.

Treasurer’s Report: January Treasurer’s Report
No quorum, tabled to next meeting

Announcements: Melanie Chaffin-Poeling’s son’s surgery was successful and they expect he will be walking by his first birthday in September.

Reminder about the Presidential Lecture and Performance Series:
Schedule located at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/cvpa/college/president/

New Provost, Dr. Robert Smith, begins February 16, 2009.
Guest Speakers: Sam Segran, TTU Chief Information Officer and Dr. Kathy Austin, Assistant Vice President, Paco Diez, and Mark Holwerda from Information Technology.
Mr. Segran announced that TechAnnounce is going to have a Banner component to help facilitate dispensation of information.

Computer based training (CBT) adds new courses quarterly. They encourage everyone to check out available offerings at www.cbt.ttu.edu

This summer there will be a pilot program initiated between IT and Quality Svc. Any training done through IT will be recorded on the link that Quality Svc has to store info of training classes employees have taken.

Kathy asked for suggestions for classes and there was some discussion in regards to some of the ideas and questions Senators had.

Data Cleanup week will be the first week of May. It will culminate in Shred Day. They are asking for the Staff Senate to help encourage and promote Data Cleanup Week.

Melanie asked about an “advisor” portal. Dr. Austin indicated that has actually been suggested and is the queue for implementation.

Guest Speaker: Nathanael Haddox, Ombuds for TTU Staff
Mr. Haddox presented his annual report for FY 2008 for the Staff Ombuds office. The name has changed to Ombuds from Ombudsman to avoid gender issues.
The demographics of visitors to the Staff Ombuds represented as follows:
   Gender: Male 40%, Female 60%
   Race:     White 65%, Hispanic 25%, and Other 10%

Ideal Work Environment:
• Work relationships
  o Good communication
  o Trust and Teamwork
• Management
  o Clearly stated expectations
  o Tools and training
  o Feedback
  o Recognition
  o Opportunity for growth
• Organization
Direction and leadership
Job security
Safety

Recommendations for improvement
• Communication/Teamwork building activities
• Management development
• Hiring practice review
• Exit interview process

Future Activities:
• New faculty ombuds
• New phone number and marketing
• New outreach

Committees:

By-Laws - No report

Communications & Public Relations
– Senate Insider— newsletter articles are due to Barbara Bass or Ron Nail by April 1, 2009.

Elections – No report – about to get geared up

Grievance - No report

Issues – No report, there will be a meeting next week.

Nominations - No Report

Scholarship
– Received 34 applications. Packets will go to the committee for review next week.

Technology
– The new Staff Senator picture is on the website and roster is updated.

Child Care Committee – No Report

Salary Advisory Committee – No report

University Parking
– Car Clinic on March 4, 2009, 2 pm – 5 pm in C17 parking lot.

Employee Recognition Committee – No report

Gender Equity – Heather Medley will be the Staff Senate representative

Adjournment: Adjourned at 4:45PM.