

## Meeting Minutes - May 5, 1999

The Staff Senate met on Wednesday, May 5, 1999, in the Matador Room of the University Center, with Dan Burns, Vice President, presiding. Senators present were: Ables, Cory, Nava, Nichols, Pirkle, Ponticell, Saiz, Schuessler, Smith, Trischitti, Weaver, Wheeler, Clawson, Samarripas, Segura, Tillack, Whyburn, Bell, Ellis, Sjue-Hall, Hunter, Kinghorn, Little, Meriwether, Prado, Silvas, Welch, White, Widener, Williams, Burns, J., Crosby, Flores, Garcia, Lira, Sandoval, Ramos, Rocha, Harris, Stubbs, and Thomas. Senators Graham, Billingsley, Roberson, and Widener were excused.

### Recognition of Guests

Vice President Burns called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and welcomed the alternate Senators: Curlee, Sims, Turner, Burt, Cates, Segran, Barnett, Lacy.

### Approval of Minutes

Corrections to the minutes of April 7, 1999, were so noted under the following:

Old Business, Executive Board Elections—Professional, should have read: Judy Hunter was elected.

The Board of Regents Meeting will be held on May 14

Darrel Thomas' name has only one "l".

With the above noted corrections, it was moved by Jessie Sjue-Hall and seconded by Kay Whyburn that the minutes of the April 7, 1999, be approved; the motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Report

A written Treasurer's Report was distributed. Due to an error in subtraction the Treasurer's Report will be corrected and distributed at the next meeting. After correction, the Treasurer's Report should show that there is \$2,528.57 in the account.

### President's Report

In the absence of the President, Vice President Burns made the President's Report. He thanked the Nominations Committee for the work they have done in getting appointments made to various committees. He noted that members of the Staff Senate would also be asked to serve on University Wide Committees.

The telephone listing for the Staff Senate will appear in the directory as "Staff Senate"

On April 22, 1999, Dan Burns and Pee Wee Roberson attended a meeting as representatives of the Staff Senate, along with the Faculty Senate and the Student Senate with Regent Sowell to discuss the parking plan. It was noted that the Staff Senate has not had any type of presentation on the master plan or the campus-parking plan. There seems to be a consensus that at least one parking garage will be built on campus because of the new Education, English, and Philosophy Building construction taking parking space. There will probably be another meeting regarding the parking situation. A Faculty Senate Resolution, passed unanimously by the group, was read at this meeting which reads: "The faculty Senate requests that no garage proposal go to the Board of Regents before the senate has been consulted and given sufficient time to respond. In the opinion of the Faculty Senate, a period shorter than 2 months is insufficient for us to conduct careful studies, deliberate thoughtfully, and provide meaningful input. The Faculty Senate asks that the Administration show courtesy to the Faculty, Staff, and Student Senates by tendering its proposal during the 1999-2000 school year (i.e., not demanding summer meetings) since the issue is not an urgent one."

The privatization issue was not discussed at this meeting because of the lack of time. It was noted that the Faculty Senate had submitted a resolution which states: 1) "the Faculty Senate expresses its opposition to efforts to privatize University Services provided by University employees, and 2) and the AAUP President had submitted a resolution and letter regarding the privatization issue, and 3) We recommend that in the future, any efforts to privatize University Services be done only in consultation with the Faculty Senate and any appropriate University committees and employees." A letter from Dr. Gary S. Elbow, the AAUP President, was submitted to Regent Sowell, which states: "...Quality of maintenance is a concern of all faculty. We hope that you will take these issues into consideration as you investigate the possible benefits and drawbacks of privatization of these vital services." The President of the Staff Senate has copies of the Faculty Senate resolutions and the letter from the AAUP President.

The Benefits and Retirement Committee is working on the issue of dental coverage.

It was noted that the Staff/Dependant Scholarship is still available. This scholarship has to be applied for each year.

Mr. Raymond Zavala has resigned and an alternate will be appointed to fill this vacancy. Claudia Cory was appointed due to the resignation of Kittie Cox and she was welcomed as a new member of the Staff Senate.

New Business

Nominations Committee

It was moved by Craig Wheeler and seconded by Judy Hunter that the report from the Nominations Committee be accepted; the vote was unanimous. The Charge to the Committees is as follows:

Bylaws Committee to make sure constitution and bylaws are in sync and to research representation in Crafts and Trades classification.

Communications Committee will continue to investigate cost effective method of distribution minutes and information.

The following appointments to committees have been made:

Bylaws & Constitution Committee

Beverly Pirkle, Jessie Sjue-Hall, Cliff Harris, Russell Crosby, Oscar Segura

Communication & Publication Committee

Craig Wheeler, Chair; Pat Little, Steve Bell, Sam Segran, Jeff Burns, Ninfa Flores, David Tillack; Jan Kinghorn, Ex-officio.

Election Committee

Emily Saiz, Reggi Widener, Pee Wee Roberson, Sarah Stubbs, Mary Ann Sandoval, Steven Clawson.

Grievance Committee

Peggy Flores, Barbara White, Kerry Billingsley, Lloyd Lacy, David Lira, Rudy Samarripas.

Ad hoc Committees Traffic and Parking

Action: The Nominations Committee will appoint membership on this committee.

## Privatization

Action: The Nominations Committee will appoint the membership.

Other New Business Longevity Pay for Part-time Employees: A letter has been submitted from a staff member regarding part-time employees that do not receive longevity pay.

Action: Kay Whyburn will check to see if this is a State policy and report to the group at the next meeting.

Staff Survey: Some staff had asked if a survey could be conducted regarding how our staff salaries compare to other Big XII schools. It was moved by Kay Whyburn and seconded by Barbara White that Wage and Salary be contacted regarding a staff survey of salaries.

Action: Barbara White will check into this issue and report back at the next meeting.

Social Security Number on Checks: An objection had been noted to the social security number of the employee appearing on checks. Pat Little will look into this issue and Maurice Welch will work with her.

Action: A report will be presented at the next meeting.

Retirement Plan: A question was raised as to why staff cannot be on the same retirement plan as faculty or the higher administration? It was noted that this might be a Texas State Coordinating Board rule.

Action: This item will be explored and a report will be given at the next meeting. Emily Saiz and Jessie Sjue-Hall will work on this issue.

Insurance Charges and Employee Dependent Scholarship: It was noted that insurance is charged double to an employee if they are also a student. It was requested that the Employee Dependent Scholarship be added to this issue.

Action: The following Staff Senate members will work on this issue: Cliff Harris, Frank Silvas, Linda Prado, Oscar Segura, Pat Cates, and Emily Saiz.

Student/Staff/Faculty Survey: This survey was distributed and all members present were asked to complete the survey and turn it back in before leaving.

Social Security and Benefits: This issue will be reported on at a later date.

#### Next Meeting

Staff Senate Executive Board Meeting, Wednesday, May 26, 1999, Llano Estacado Room, UC, 3:00 p.m.

Staff Senate Meeting, Wednesday, June 2, Senate Room, UC, 3:00 p.m.