

Meeting Minutes -APRIL 4, 2001

The Staff Senate met on Wednesday, April 4, 2001, in the Senate Room of the University Center with Kerry Billingsley, President, presiding. Senators present were: C de Baca, Cory, Fleming, Flores, Foy, Gonzalez, Pirkle, Sims, Wade, Boyer, Clawson, Cates, Segran, Benton, Blackmon, Ellis, Kinghorn, Little, Peterson, Reynolds, Robbins, Stow, Vinson, C., White, Williams, Chavez, Crosby, Lira, Ramirez, Harris, Lowe, Vinson, R. Senators Saiz, Whyburn, and Pruitt were excused. Senators Barron, Gaytan, Burt, Tillack, Alcorta, Flores, N., Moreno, Perez, and Torres were absent.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Installation of Senators

Alternate Senators Kathy Womle and Elizabeth Wagner were welcomed, and sworn in to replace former Senators Judy Curlee, and Estella Barron respectively.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 7, 2001 meeting were approved as written with the correction that Gil Reeve is chair of the University Strategic Planning Committee, and adding that Steve Boyer volunteered to maintain the OP manual for the Staff Senate. It was moved by Jan Kinghorn and seconded by Joan Blackmon that the minutes be accepted as written with the corrections noted.

Treasurer's Report

Senator Whyburn was absent due to a conflict in meetings and copies of the Treasurer's Report were distributed. It was noted that the Executive Board voted to join the Student Senate in purchasing an ad in the UD to congratulate the Lady Raiders on their trip to the Sweet 16. The Senate will contribute \$150.00 toward the purchase of the ad.

Quality Service Awards

Senators Emily Saiz and Roger Vinson were recognized as recipients of this year's Quality Service Award.

Communications/Public Relations Report

Senator Little announced that the Appreciation and Inauguration Ceremony and Reception is scheduled July 11, 2001. Volunteers are still needed to assist with the event.

Election Committee

There are sixteen vacant seats, and forty-five individuals are running for election. Nominations will be mailed on April 26, 2001 and are due in by May 18, 2001.

Sick Leave Task Force

A memo has been developed requesting that Jim Brown, Director Personnel, review the alternative sick leave policies used by some departments on campus. The Sick Leave Task Force is requesting response on the legality of these policies from Jim Brown by April 13, 2001.

Ombudsman for Staff

Senator Sims reported that the Task Force met with Bill Hunger, a former Ombudsman with Ohio State to gather information about the Ombudsman program there. Bill is currently employed in the Tech Training Department. Senator Sims indicated there has been some email support in regards to an Ombudsman for staff.

Time Off Rewards Task Force

The TTUHSC policy is being reviewed, and the Task Force is scheduled to meeting April 12th.

Child Care Committee

Progress is still underway on the childcare center, and meetings are schedule with various organizations to review possible funding. The next meeting is set for April 25 and Emily Saiz will represent the Staff Senate and report at the May meeting.

Parking Garages

An up-date will be given at the May meeting on the status of parking garages.

Emergency Leave

Penny Burns discussed Emergency Leave with the Senate. This was brought up as an issue because of the inconsistency among departments in approving it. Penny pointed out it is the department head's decision whether Emergency Leave is granted or not. Under the current OP, Emergency Leave requires vice president and presidential approval. An employee has the following options available in regards to Emergency Leave: 1) to discuss the leave with the manager of their department, 2) The Personnel Director and/or 3) to file a Grievance.

Legislative Committee

The committee is still organizing. Gloria Hale is monitoring issues affecting HR, and will provide an update in June. The legislative update can be accessed from the TTU website.

New Business

President Billingsley mentioned letters of absence had been sent out, and some Senators had missed seven meetings. President Billingsley informed the Senate she would miss the Senate meeting May 2, 2001 due to out-of-town business. The Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Next Meetings

Executive Board Meetings April 25, 2001

Staff Senate Meeting, May 2, 2001

Staff members are invited to attend Staff Senate Meetings, if they so desire.