

**UK STAFF SENATE
July 10, 2008
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
W. T. Young Library Auditorium
MINUTES**

- I. **Call to Order** — The meeting was called to order by Chair Miller at 1:03 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Oath of Office for New Senators – Senior Associate General Counsel T. Lynn Williamson**
- IV. **Roll Call** — Present – 66; Excused – 6; Absent – 10; Resigned - 1
- V. **Approval of June Minutes** — The June minutes were approved as distributed.
- VI. **Officer Reports**

A. Secretary – Aimee Nielson

Secretary Nielson moved that the withdrawal of Susan Revo be approved, and it was seconded.

Discussion.

MOTION PASSED.

She also directed senators to inform her when unable to attend regular meetings, preferably via email.

B. Treasurer – Jann Burks

Treasurer Burks reported that over \$4,000 will go back to President Todd from the operating budget. \$15,000 will be returned to Executive Vice President for Financial Affairs (EVPFA) Frank Butler, and just under \$1,000 will be returned to President Todd from the Staff Appreciation Day (SAD) account. Staff Appreciation Day was sponsored by the Staff Senate for the first time in 2008. A meeting of those who have expressed interest in serving on the SAD Commission will be held on July 28 at 2:30. More details will follow.

VII. Presentations

A. New UK Healthcare Facility – Executive Vice President for Health Affairs (EVPHA) Michael Karpf

EVPHA Karpf presented plans for the new Chandler facility and held a question and answer session. He also showed and narrated a DVD that tours the facility that is set to open in 2011. The virtual tour may be viewed at <http://www.ukhealthcare.uky.edu/renewal/virtualtour.htm>.

B. AlterNetRides – Office of Work-Life Director Robynn Pease and Associate Director of Services Stuart Kearns

Dr. Pease and Mr. Kearns gave information on the new ride-sharing service. This program connects UK, BCTC, VA employees, students, and visitors who want to share rides to save gas and money and decrease their impact on the environment. The link for more information is <http://www.uky.edu/Parking/transportation-ridematch.html>.

C. DanceBlue – Sen. Angela Walton

Sen. Walton announced that planning is underway for DanceBlue 2009 and that anyone interested in serving on its committee should contact her.

VIII. Discussion / Action Items

A. Committee Assignments

Sen. Kim Trumble moved to approve assignments, and it was seconded.

Discussion.

MOTION PASSED.

B. Committee Chair Elections

The following chairs and secretaries were elected, respectively:

Election – Ann Livingston, Patti Naber
Staff Issues – Debbie Burton, Brenda Huffer
PR/Communications – Jen Martin, Will Swiney
By-laws – Eric Shock, Terri Crocker
External Affairs – Dave Melanson, to be determined
IFRA – Carol Harmon, Donald Johnson
STAC – Kim Trumble, Paul Wilson
PAC – Alison Preston, Mari Marsh

C. Diversity – Office Coordinator Holly Clark

Ms. Clark announced that she met with Vice President for Institutional Diversity Judy Jackson. This is a new position at the university. VP Jackson will create an advisory council comprised of the various constituencies at the university, so she will request that the Senate select a representative when the group begins to form.

IX. Beginning of Term Address – Chair Bart Miller

Chair Miller stated that he is entering his fourth year on the Staff Senate. He served on the Institutional Finance and Resource Allocation (IFRA) Committee for two years and served as Vice-Chair last year. For the last eight years he has worked in the Employee Benefits Office. He introduced the officers and office coordinator and then complimented Immediate Past Chair Kenny Blair on his year of service. He then introduced Staff Trustee Russ Williams who is an ex-officio member of the Staff Senate by virtue of his trustee office, commenting that staff have a very experienced individual in this role, as Mr. Williams is a long-time employee of UK.

Chair Miller commented that he is looking forward to an exciting year. Past accomplishments include Staff Appreciation Day (SAD), implementation of the Shared Leave Pool, and membership and influence on a variety of Work-Life committees, resulting in the Family Education Benefit. He remarked that these are a good start, but he is looking to build on them, and they are positive proof the Staff Senate can have a positive impact.

To answer common questions about the Staff Senate, Chair Miller began by remarking that it is the official representative body for UK staff and that it works with various departments and bodies to address issues related to staff. Additionally, it conducts the Staff Senate election, the Staff Trustee election, Staff Appreciation Day, and has representation on various university committees. The Senate is also a participant in DanceBlue in an effort to take part in service at the university.

In his impartial role, Chair Miller will preside over regular and executive meetings and act as the leader of the body with University Administration. He stressed that in order for senators to be effective, they must be involved and he then outlined expectations:

1. Each senator is expected to attend all regular Staff Senate meetings, as well as committee meetings, as assigned. Notification of absence should go to Sec. Aimee Nielson. In her absence, notification should go to Office Coordinator Holly Clark.

2. Each senator is expected to attend committee meetings. Committee Chairs are expected to submit monthly meeting minutes on a timely basis.
3. The full Senate meetings regularly feature speakers on various topics, and respectful behavior is required. Tough questions may be asked, but credibility can't be jeopardized through improper treatment of guests.
4. Voicing of opinions is encouraged; debate of issues in meetings and the listserv is encouraged. However, as with speakers, respect is mandatory at all times, as our actions are reflected in the Senate's permanent record.

Initiatives Chair Miller foresees for the Staff Senate are:

1. Continuing dialogue with university administration to find creative ways to reduce recurring expenses without additional loss of jobs, so employees will get raises next year.
2. Developing methodologies to promote ride sharing. This is already well under way, but UK needs the opportunity publicized to employee groups, and Staff Senators are in the perfect position to distribute this information. He asked senators to take time to inform constituents of programs as they become available.
3. Making individual financial counseling available to employees, such as home loan, car loan, personal budgeting, but not retirement, since it is already provided at no cost from TIAA-CREF and Fidelity. As stated in the May meeting, he supports a new position, but in these lean budget times, he believes the Staff Senate should present a list of alternatives in conjunction with a recommendation for a new position. Therefore, an ad hoc committee can develop this proposal or a committee can elect to "adopt" the issue as part of their function in conjunction with Robynn Pease in the Office of Work-Life.
4. Expansion of computer access to employee groups. Some employee groups, by nature of their jobs, may not have adequate access. This is an issue the Staff Senate has discussed over time and the hope is that incremental progress will be made. The first group to target is the Physical Plant Department (PPD) employees in Peterson Service Building. Kim Wilson has donated four computers for use. Meetings will be set up with PPD in the near future to see what barriers exist to offering computer access in the Service Building. This won't address the needs for all employees, but it will provide a good start and a blueprint to follow with subsequent groups.

Chair Miller thanked the Staff Senate for the opportunity to serve and acknowledged the effort and success of his predecessors. He encouraged new senators to stay involved and welcomed back returning senators. Finally, he thanked new committee chairs for taking on the responsibility and said that he looks forward to working with all senators.

X. Standing and University Committee / Subcommittee / Commission Reports

No reports.

XI. Items from the Floor

None.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Sen. Chuck Moore.

Next meeting: August 14, 2008

*Respectfully submitted,
Holly Clark, Aimee Nielson*

8/7/08

/hjc