

## Staff Senate Minutes February 16, 2005

Attendees	X	Michael Albino	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristi Greier
	X	Keshia Askew	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhonda Griner
	X	Paulette Bell	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anne Harper
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mary Jane Blackwell	X	Candy Horch
	X	Peggy Bower	X	Diane Jackson
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scarlet Brooks	X	Ann Lee
	X	Matthew Campbell	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crystal Lee
	X	Cathi Curtis	X	Mike Logan
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Holly Denenny	X	Ray Pinner
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mattie Draper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marilyn Ratliff
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marcie Epling	X	Linda Stanley
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Fowlkes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jan Williamson
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Gibbs		

List Proxies:

Keshia Askew for Mattie Draper

---

Paulette Bell for Rhonda Griner and Scarlet Brooks

---

Cathi Curtis for Anne Harper and Holly Denenny

---

Candy Horch for Crystal Lee

---

**The meeting was called to order by Peggy Bower at 11:07 a.m.**

**Minutes of last meeting:**

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 18 meeting was made by Ann Lee and seconded by Keshia Askew.

**Old Business:**

- Cathi Curtis asked about the status of new faculty/staff orientation assistance (campus tour, lunch, etc.). Peggy has been unsuccessful in contacting Jan Williamson, chair of the committee, regarding the implementation of this program. She will continue to try to contact her.
- Ray Pinner reported that the sick leave banking policy proposal is still under review.

**Committee Reports**

- Keshia Askew announced that the annual staff picnic will be on Wednesday, May 18.
- Linda Stanley stated that the Elections Committee needs to know if any current staff senate member will be unable to complete the second year of his or her term due to extenuating circumstances. This information is needed before nominations are solicited and ballots prepared for next year's Senate vacancies. Peggy suggested that we begin thinking about who we would like to nominate for the Senate and who might serve as officers.

## **New Business**

- President Franz has, with Bob Rieder's assistance, prepared a statement to be included in the Faculty/Staff Handbook regarding liability insurance coverage for UAH employees. Peggy distributed a copy of the statement.
- Dr. Franz has approved the 2006-07 Academic Calendar, which includes an extra holiday on the Friday of Spring Break, as the result of the Staff Senate's proposal.
- Michael Albino reported that Charles Gailes, Director of UAH Public Safety, will be returning in March from duty in Iraq and that it would be good for the University to recognize him in some way. Ray Pinner suggested proposing this in writing to President Franz.
- Diane Jackson asked what brought about the recent change in the way Human Resources computes continuous service for faculty and staff. Ray indicated that this change was because it is the fair and correct way to compute service for those who stopped out for a while and then came back. Diane spoke for all in saying that this change is very much appreciated.
- Peggy encouraged participation in Higher Education Day on Thursday, March 3. She stressed the importance of a large constituency being there to make sure we encourage our legislators to give us our fair share. Employees who attend will need to use annual or personal leave.
- Ray Pinner noted that the higher education appropriation built into the governor's proposed budget is better than any starting number we've had in many years. The Chancellor and his staff's strategy resulted in our getting what we asked for. It includes a 4% salary pool, reimbursement for retiree's health insurance payments imposed by last year's budget, money to cover the health insurance rate increase imposed and a TRS rate increase to go in effect soon.

## **Other Business**

Met Life representative, Gerald Franks, made a brief presentation concerning the desirability and availability of Long Term Care insurance for eligible UAH employees, retirees, spouses, surviving spouses, and their parents. The UAH rate discount is 5%. He indicated his willingness to discuss individually the various plans available or to make a presentation to interested groups.

**Ann Lee moved and Candy Horsh seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned at 11:31 a.m.**