

**Staff Senate Meeting
July 16, 2008**

Attendees			
	Veronica Belser	X	Sheila Ray
X	Kevin Bennett		Cheryl Plaza
X	Cheryl Bruno		Rhonda Reynolds
X	Jamie Clay		Deborah Rice
X	Claudia Ford	X	Dexter Satcher
	Kim Fuller	X	Ravi Seth
X	Jackie Hankins	X	Jacqueline Siniard
X	Annie Harris	X	Lisa Strickland
X	Angelia Heulett	X	LaTrice Townsend
	Kristy Holland	X	Jan Williamson
	David Kyle	X	Mary Beth Walker
	Barbara Lawson		President David Williams
X	Renata Limmer		
X	Jan Perkins		
X	Ray Pinner		

List Proxies:

Jackie Hankins for Kim Fuller

Jamie Clay called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

The minutes were approved from the last meeting.

Distribution: Notebooks for new Staff Senators, new Staff Senate Roster.

OLD BUSINESS:

Short-term Disability Vendor Comparisons: Ravi Seth reported that Lincoln Financial is highly recommended as the vendor of choice. We were reminded that the Sick Leave Bank will no longer exist if we have Short-term Disability. It was noted that the Sick Leave Bank has not been used to date. The Staff Senate needs to encourage participation in the Short-term Disability program. Jan Williamson advised everyone to review the program and see if it is right for you (e.g. Pre-existing conditions not covered for 12 months). It was noted that this program is very affordable by comparison. Sheila Ray moved that we approve the recommendation for Lincoln Financial to be our vendor of choice. Dexter Satcher seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Faculty/Staff Mailing List: Sheila Ray noted concern regarding Peggy Bower's campus emailing list. Not all parties are on the campus-wide list, and therefore are not receiving pertinent information. Ray Pinner suggested that Dean Wilson Luquire be consulted, as he is overseeing ChargerNet.

Convocation Reminder: Sunday, August 17 – 6:00pm. Everyone is asked to RSVP to Peggy Bower by email or phone by August 1.

"Swap and Share Supplies (SSS)" Event: Staff Senate will host an annual Swap and Share Supplies event for Spring 2009. Claudia Ford volunteered to chair the committee for 2008-2009. More information to follow with dates.

TIAA/CREF: Ray Pinner gave an update on Exempt & Non-exempt employee difference in university matching contributions. He reported that this came up for a vote, but did not pass two years ago. Dr. Franz and Mr. Pinner were in support of approval, but Mr. Pinner has not had a chance to discuss with President Williams. Mr. Pinner stated that this is a good program and recommended that we speak with our system counterparts, as this would have to be supported by the entire system - UAH cannot do it on our own.

NEW BUSINESS:

Staff Senate Committees: Sign up sheet was passed around for volunteers for the various Staff Senate Committees.

UAH 10-Hour Workdays: LaTrice Townsend raised the question regarding UAH employees being given the opportunity to work 10-hour workdays. Ray Pinner responded that a four-day workweek has been discussed. At UAB, certain offices have implemented these hours, not saving the university any money, but benefiting the employee (gas expenses, etc.). Mr. Pinner is in favor of more discussion.

Combined Meeting: Rhonda Gaede (Faculty Senate) suggested that the Faculty Senate and Staff Senate have a combined meeting once a semester. President Williams encourages this meeting. The Staff Senate voted unanimously in favor of meeting once a semester. Jamie Clay will notify Rhonda Gaede.

Smoking Policy Update: Dexter Satcher stated that the Smoking Policy has not been implemented, as it is "hung up" in HR. Jamie Clay will contact Human Resources regarding the delay.

Recycling: Annie Harris brought up the issue of recycling on campus. There is more of a need, e.g. in Student Housing. Dexter Satcher noted that Robert Redmond is in charge of UAH's recycling effort. Mr. Redmond will be invited to the Staff Senate meeting in August to discuss.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Employee Benefits Committee: UAH Holidays - Since each UA System campus works separately, it was decided that there is no point in keeping this issue on the Staff Senate table. The Staff Senate decided to leave UAH Holidays Policy "as is".

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jamie Clay: Pictures of new senators will to be taken at the end of this meeting. Thank you to Kevin Bennett for the Staff Senate webpage design and maintenance.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57am.