



STAFF SENATE MINUTES

MINUTES

DECEMBER 11, 2013 9:30 AM

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, ROOM 638

ATTENDEES	Christi Bailey, Kelli Cole, Kristi Davis, Michael Davis, Jason Dunavant, Richard Duran, Seth Hall, Jeff Hendrix, Russell Hollis, Shelley Johnston, Kyle O'Neal, Patricia Pate, Cyndy Robertson, Whitney Sutherland, Lindsey Wilkerson
ABSENT (EXCUSED)	

Agenda topics

CALL TO ORDER	A regular meeting of the Staff Senate was held on December 11, 2013 in the University Library Room 622 and called to order at 9:30 am by Lindsey Wilkerson, President. A quorum was present.
MINUTES	Minutes of the previous meeting held November 20, 2013 were reviewed by the committee. A change was proposed and noted. Shelley Johnston moved to approve the amended minutes; Whitney Sutherland seconded. Motion passed.
DISCUSSIONS	Guest Speaker: Dr. Pani was the guest speaker for the staff senate. He distributed a few handouts that explained the Academic Affairs restructure that will for the most part be in put into effect in January 2014. Dr. Pani announced that a new program is being proposed; the proposed program is a BA in Dance. The question of why did we cut the Medical Laboratory Science degree when it was such a great program and propose to develop a new program was asked. Dr. Pani said that cutting the Medical Laboratory Science program saved \$300,000, and he said that a BA in Dance would not cost the university any money because we already have the needed faculty. He also said that studies have shown that there is a demand for Dance graduates. Lindsey Wilkerson asked Dr. Pani what Dr. Woodley thought about ULM being proactive with the budget cuts. Dr. Pani replied that he was not at the meeting but said that Dr. Richters reported that Dr. Woodley fully supported ULM. Dr. Pani also said that he felt like other UL system universities would be structuring their programs very similar to the way that ULM has done.

President's Report: Lindsey Wilkerson, staff senate president, John Anderson, faculty senate president, and President Bruno met with the Interfaith group. ULM has decided to partner with Interfaith on discussions pertaining to the state of higher education. Interfaith offered for ULM representatives to attend a retreat; however, there was not enough notice given for any ULM employees to attend. Lindsey reported that Louisiana Tech University, Grambling University, and ULM senates will continue discussions of having a joint session in the future.

Committee Reports

Communication: Jeff Hendrix had nothing to report.

Constitution and By-Laws: Kyle O'Neal distributed handouts that laid out the current language, proposed language, and proposed changes. Kyle O'Neal presented the information formally today so that the staff senate could vote on it in January. The amended version needs to be put in place by February, when the staff senate holds elections. Jeff Hendrix suggested making the membership clause more inclusive to any staffing position change. A formal vote was made to amend the language. Jeff Hendrix made the motion; Russell Hollis seconded the motion. All were in favor. Lindsey Wilkerson and Kyle O'Neal will work on updating the language and present the newly updated language via email before the next meeting in January.

Staff Welfare: Kelli Cole had nothing to report.

Elections: Michael Davis said that his committee would start working in January.

Unfinished Business: Lindsey Wilkerson is working on the staff survey.

New Business: Christi Bailey asked if the faculty senate and staff senate ever have a joint meeting. Lindsey Wilkerson said no. He said that the idea had been brought up many years ago, and it the decision was made to not have any joint sessions. Kristi Davis reminded everyone that the Academic Affairs talk was open to both faculty and staff. A few of the staff senate members expressed to Lindsey that they would be in favor of having an annual meeting with both senates. Lindsey said that he would discuss the idea with John Anderson, the faculty senate president.

Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday, January 15, 2013 @ 9:30 a.m. in Conference Room LIB 622.

CONCLUSIONS There being no further business Michael Davis made a motion to adjourn; Patricia Pate seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.