I. CALL TO ORDER

Review/Approve Minutes from August Meeting

- Kim Watson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The August minutes were unanimously approved with one change.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Committee Sign-ups

- A list of the Staff Senate committees with current vacancies was brought back up to the group in an effort to fill the remaining openings. Sherry Carpenter agreed to serve on the Altrusa Award committee. However, we were unable to identify someone to help Dr. Keith on the Staff Development Day committee.

Constitution/Bylaws Update

- Kim Watson presented the new wording of the Staff Senate Constitution to reflect Dr. Keith’s concern of officer terms and elections. The new wording was accepted by the committee. The new wording is:

  Article III Section 7. In the event that a current member of the Executive Committee is not re-elected to a senate seat during his/her term on the Executive Committee, a replacement will be chosen by the remaining members of the Executive Committee from among the current members of Staff Senate.
Prioritize Activities for New Fiscal Year

- A list of various ideas and activities were posted around the room. Each senator identified their top three choices for the coming year. After the exercise, the votes were tallied to see which activities/ideas were most important to the committee. The results of this exercise are below:

1. Participate in revision of performance appraisal form and procedure – (10 votes)
2. Quality Control & Process re-engineering for staff areas to cut costs, increase productivity & increase efficiency – (10 votes)
3. Participate as a group in two College events; (i.e. Run for the Money, fair, festival, etc.) – (10 votes)
4. Review/simplify Staff Excellence Award Submission process – (9 votes)
5. Enhance communication with staff via quarterly email announcements, surveys, Inside Gaston submission, etc. -- (9 votes)
6. Participate in College's Code Green Initiative – (8 votes)
7. Spearhead "stay home if you're sick" initiative to combat spread of H1N1 – (7 votes)
8. Foster partnership/collaboration with Faculty Senate – (6 votes)
9. Raise awareness about the role of Staff Senate at Gaston College – (6 votes)
10. Spearhead/participate on Memorial Day observance committee for 2010 – (3 votes)
11. Recognition for Senate term completion - certificate of appreciation from Senate Officers/Dr. Skinner – (2 votes)
12. Consider installation of baby changing stations in restrooms for key buildings – (2 votes)
13. Create award/criteria for staff member of the quarter – (0 votes)

III. NEW BUSINESS

General Staff Meeting

- The date for the General Staff Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13. The event has been reserved for the Garrison Auditorium at 2:00 p.m. Potential items to be added to the agenda include the change to the constitution/bylaws, prioritized ideas/activities for the coming year, and a recap of last year.

- Dr. Greer has offered $150 from her discretionary account to put towards a social event after the general staff meeting.

- Next Staff Senate Meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on October 13, 2009

Board Meeting Report

- Dr. Keith submitted the Board Report from August 24, 2009:
Dr Skinner’s 15 year anniversary was celebrated.

The College met 8 of 8 critical success factors. We did not receive an exceptional rating, but this is not that important since there is no additional funding this year.

Finance
- 5% reversion and hold another 1%
- Textile Center cut 13%
- Many Huskins and Dual Enrollment classes cut
- Radio station lost all state funding
- Lots of other cuts
- Some increases: e.g. equipment allocation
- Budget allocations for Technical Education ($117,497) and Allied Health ($910,680) are up
- Had a 14% increase in curriculum FTE's

Enrollment 6216 – curriculum

Title III grant for $1,592,228

Dr Skinner will not get a pay increase, but had contract extended for two more years.

Officers for the Board next year
- Chair – Barbara Voorhees
- Vice chair – Steve Campbell
- Secretary – James Smith

Announcements

- Kim Watson gave an update on the Staff Senate nametags. She hopes to have them by the general staff meeting.

- Kim Watson is waiting to hear back from Todd Baney in response to a specific question from a staff member about the college’s pandemic plan.

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.