MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STAFF SENATE
Thursday, July 15, 2010
Morris Library, Room 226
Gaston College | Dallas, NC
Prepared by: Ben Dungan

Members Present:  Dr. Karen Less, Harriet Dameron, Ben Dungan, Melanie Hoyle, Dr. Linda Greer, Sherry Carpenter, Doug Bradley, Kim Watson, Vickie Hoke, Jody Mosteller, Conrad Martin, Paula Homesley, Leah Mackey, Jenell Barnette, Adele Earls

Members Absent:  N/A

Others Present:  N/A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Welcome/Introductions

- Dr. Less welcomed new and returning senators. Members introduced themselves.

Review/Approve Minutes from June Meeting

- The June minutes were approved as edited.

Nomination and Election of Vice President/President-Elect

- Doug Bradley was elected as the new Vice President/President-Elect for the 2010-11 year.

Role of Staff Senate

- Dr. Less gave a brief overview on the role of Staff Senate, including the various committees and events that Staff Senate plays a role in.

2009-10 Year End Wrap Up

- Kim Watson passed out a brief report summarizing the goals and accomplishments from the previous year.

II. OLD BUSINESS

2010 Elections
• Dr. Less informed the committee that we are one senator short. In this case, the Executive Committee can appoint someone to fill a vacant seat on Staff Senate. Dr. Less asked the members of the committee to refer any names of individuals who might be interested in serving on Staff Senate to the Executive Committee.

• Sherry Carpenter mentioned that a staff member suggested we find a way to restrict Staff Senate voting to only Level 19 staff and below. Since Level 20 (Vice Presidents) consists of only 5 people, the nomination committee will just delete those emails from the list when sending out information on elections.

Change to Constitution

• The recent constitution change made Staff Senate an official group at Gaston College.

Fall Meeting Date

• The committee will hold the annual fall staff meeting on Tuesday, October 12.

---

III. NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Schedule for 2010-11

• Leah Mackey made a motion that we continue to meet on the second Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Second by Jenell Barnett. Motion was approved by the membership.

Prep for August Meeting

• Dr. Less asked the committee to be thinking of ideas/activities that Staff Senate can participate in this year. She indicated that at our next meeting, we will prioritize our goals and objectives for the year.

Sign-up for Trustees Meetings

• Dr. Less passed around a sign-up sheet and asked the committee to sign up to attend one of the seven upcoming Board of Trustees meetings.

Committee Assignments

• Dr. Less discussed the various committees that Staff Senate is involved with. Each member agreed to serve on a committee:
  o Mini Grant: Kim Watson
  o Calendar: Melanie Hoyle
  o Altrusa Award: Jody Mosteller & Sherry Carpenter
  o Social (internal): Vicki Hoke & Harriett Dameron
  o Nomination: Ben Dungan & Doug Bradley
  o Staff Development: Adele Earls & Doug Bradley
Executive Council Meeting Update

- Dr. Linda Greer gave an update from Executive Council:
  
  o Executive Council appreciated the feedback from Staff Senate regarding the new forms and updated process for the Annual Review Process. Training sessions will be provided to Supervisors on the use of the new forms as well as Information Sessions for nonsupervisory staff so they will be aware of the new forms and process.
  
  o The college-wide Faculty/Staff meeting will be scheduled in November, with the date still to be determined. Because of the November date, there will be no conflict with the General Staff meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 12. Executive Council has been invited to the General Staff meeting.
  
  o Convocation will be held August 20 with a similar schedule and format as last year’s event.
  
  o The College’s Holiday Luncheon is tentatively set for Friday, December 10.
  
  o The Faculty/Staff Appreciation luncheon will be scheduled in April, with the date still to be determined.

President’s Cabinet Meeting Update

- No update

Board of Trustees Report

- Dr. Less gave an update from the Board of Trustees meeting from June 28, 2010:
  
  o Dr. Ammons gave a report on the designation received by Bessemer City High School as a Cooperative Innovative High School, which essentially qualifies them for the same level of service as an Early College High School.
  
  o Dr. Skinner presented a video referencing the college’s involvement in the receipt of the “Jerry Award.”
  
  o Dr. Greer was part of a team representing Gastonia at the All-America City competition in Kansas City.
o Dr. Skinner thanked Sylvia Bajorek, Sylvia Dixon, Stephanie Michael-Pickett, and Dr. Joe Keith for the work they did in planning the event surrounding the renaming of the East Campus to the W. Duke Kimbrell Campus and Textile Technology Center.

o Dr. Skinner will be representing North Carolina on a task force looking at developmental education and how to ensure that students come to college prepared to do college-level work.

o Fall enrollment appears to be up even more than last fall and summer also showed an increase.

o Preliminary indications are that we may have a budget by July 1 and enrollment growth for community colleges is still in the budget. Trustee Randy Vinson attributed at least a part of the favorable treatment of community colleges to the work the state trustees’ association has been doing in the General Assembly.

o An increase of approximately 30% in facility rental charges was passed. Most of these affect Myers Center facilities, especially the auditorium. There has been no increase for a long time.

o Purchase a new satellite dish was approved for WSGE, and the board also approved their plan to go forward with an attempt to become an NPR affiliate. The satellite dish would be required to become a part of NPR. The dish will be placed either on top of the Craig building (1st choice, which would cost less) or on the WSGE tower.

o Revised position description was approved for the president, and also revision to the duties of the trustees.

o BLET admission policy was approved, which was necessary due to a new numbered memo from the System Office.

Committee Updates

- **New Staff Member Welcome**
  o Barbara Gordon and Michael Rose were the two new employees that were hired in the last 30 days. They will receive the free ice cream cone from Dairy Queen.

- **Calendar**
  o No update

- **Social**
  o Jesus Medina will be invited to attend the September meeting to pitch his social event idea.

- **Mini-Grant**
  o No report.

- **Altrusa Award**
o No update

• Staff Excellence Award
  o No report

• Tobacco-Free Campus Initiative
  o The initiative has been passed. It will be going to the Board of Trustees for ratification in August. The implementation date is January 1, 2011.

Announcements

• The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 12 at 2:00 p.m. in Dalpiaz 222.

• The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.