

U.T. DALLAS STAFF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2006

SOM Executive Education Wing

9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Jacob Abraham, Marilyn Bechtol, Jessica Brown, Sarah Hernandez, Rene Herrera, Gayle Holt, Lynn Hovatter, Pat McEachern, Sue McInis, Irene Marroquin, Remona McLain, Kent Mecklenburg, Trudy Muller, Cassini Nazir, Alex Nestor, Wendy Newton, Rochelle Pena, Cathy Ranta, Margie Robbins, Jach Ross, Mary Ann Routzahn, Kayety Rowlett, Roger Stearns, Kathy White, Beverly Young, Nadira Zakhidova

Members Absent: Sandy Burdine, Daniel Calhoun, Chris Dickson, Raymond Dyson, Sandee Goertzen, Kathy Meyer, Judith Patterson, Cleon Ramey, Randy Sims, Doug Vass

EX OFFICIO: Claire Occhipinti

Visitors: Lynda Gary, Tiah Lambert, Stacy Morrison, Emebet Sahle

In the absence of Chair Sandee Goertzen and Vice-Chair Daniel Calhoun, Alex Nester called the meeting to order.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Darrelene Rachavong, Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Rachavong talked about what's going on in Student Affairs:

Athletics: Discussions has been going on about the possibility of moving from Division 3 to Division 1 or Division 2. Moving to Division 1 or 2 involves scholarships.

Full time Golf coach is being hired in the fall.

Recreational Sports: 3000 students/semester participate in intramural and club sports. A cricket field is going up with opening ceremonies being held after Spring Break.

Housing: In September a Live and Learn Community will be started beginning with Pre-Law, Pre-Med and Service Learning. The students interested in these areas will all live in the same building.

Recommendations made by Housing Committee are being put into effect:

1. Housing director has been hired and reports to Student Affairs. Some of the items the director has been busy working on are cutting back shrubs, installation of Code Blue phones, etc.
2. Students want phases 5-9, which are owned by UTD named and Waterview renamed. Buildings 1-4 are owned by foundation.

Counseling Center: James Cannici is Director.

He has brought in three interns this year who are post doc students and negotiated a contract with Southwestern Medical Center to have a psychiatrist on campus a couple of times per week.

Health Center: Physicians will be added next year.

Alternative Spring Break: Twenty to twenty-five students traveling with chaperone.

Service Learning Unit is being expanded next year.

Student Service Building: This will be a 1-stop for students and would free up lower level of library. Students would tax themselves to construct the building. When Student Government elections are held in April, a referendum will be offered to add a fee to fund the building. If the referendum is approved, it will then go to UT System and then to the Legislature. The fee would be implemented Fall 07.

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of February 8th as amended. The motion passed.

Reports:

Executive Committee: Alex reported the Executive Committee met on March 1st to establish the agenda that you have before you today.

Membership Changes: Lynn Hovatter is now a member-at-large and has been replaced in District 5 by Christopher Dickson.

Sarah Hernandez has moved to an “at large” and she is being replaced by Cathie Ranta.

Flu Shots: As you may recall, last month we announced that we would be working with the Student Health Center on the flu shots for next fall. They would be ordering them and then we would sponsor the flu shots and they will be the cosponsor instead of the Richardson Regional Medical Center. We have now found out that they cannot get the vaccine, so it looks like we will not be offering flu shots this fall – the students will not get them either through the Health Center. We will try again next year. We will be asking the Communications Committee to put this announcement in the SUN Newsletter – probably mid summer just to notify everyone that they will have to find their own source for the flu shots this fall.

Coffee with the President: The coffees with the President started up last month. We had Districts 5 and 2 at the coffee on February 16th. We will be having one every other month and there will be two districts invited to each one until the end of this academic year. The next coffee is scheduled for April 6th and will be with Districts 3 and 4. Lynn

will be getting the information out to these two districts this week.

Future coffees will be: June – Districts 1 and 7; August – District 6

Claire Occhipinti asked us to announce that in July a UTD ID will be coming. It will replace the social security number as an identifier on reports. This is a heads up kind of message and no details are available at this time.

She also said that HMO Blue and U.T. System are entering premium negotiations but it is too early to know if we will keep HMO Blue.

Staff Council Attendance: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Gayle Holt reported there is \$2,627.89 in our state fund, \$4,440.30 in the scholarship account and the designated account has \$3,505.30.

Corresponding Secretary Report: No report.

Benefits Committee: Rene Herrera reported scholarship applications are being received. Day Care is still being worked on. Rene also reported the activity fee is mandatory and cannot be waived.

Communications Committee: Cassini Nazir who is the new Chair of the Communications Committee reported the SUN was distributed in February and the committee is looking for a better way of distributing the SUN. The committee is also looking into the possibility of e-mailing the SUN. April 19th is the next deadline for articles.

Staff Development: Pat McEachern reported the UNT Staff Survey was handed out and suggestions will be made to make the survey concise and that Pat will be contacting David Gleason to invite him to talk to the committee about some of the suggestions the committee is working on.

Fundraising Committee: Rochelle reported the Balloon sale cleared \$1,216.51; however, not all balloons were sold.

Cartridges: Rochelle reported there are two rooms full of cartridges to be shipped. No check has been received. She is searching for a new company for recycling the cartridges.

Wellness Committee: Wendy reported the committee met February 16. The new meeting place will be in the Westec Building on March 16th. She is hoping the meeting place will help current and future members. The secretary is now Keith Stelzenmuller.

Lynn attended the February coffee with Dr. Daniel and mentioned the Wellness Program to Dr. Daniel. He would like to see a Wellness proposal and would like to see a

Corporate Wellness Program.

A walking program is being discussed

Faculty Senate: No report.

University Committees:

Parking and Security Committee: Kent reported the committee did not meet; however, appeals continue to be received.

Campus Facilities and Oversight Committee: Sandee Goertzen attended the meeting but no report was given.

Safety Committee: Committee secretary Kathy White reported on the first meeting which Drs. Daniel and Terry in attendance. The committee was charged. Dr. Daniel stated safety on campus is very important to him.

Women's Center: Lynda Gary reported for Judy Patterson that the Advisory Board met on February 13. The group reviewed the programs presented in the past year and discussed which ones they wanted to continue to develop for the next year.

The Spirit of Women Awards was discussed and the winners announced.

The group discussed ways to increase awareness, interest, and attendance to the Women Faculty interactive group interactive sessions.

There was interest in expanding child care and the group explored the possibilities and dynamics of such an endeavor.

The programs that were made available for sexual assault awareness were reviewed and discussed. It was agreed to continue to seek programming relating to self-defense, health and wellness programs, networking opportunities and sexual assault.

Planned programs that are coming up in the near future include: "Navigating through the dieting Maze"; "Strengthening Your Immune System"; and "How NOT to Become a Targeted Victim".

New Business:

Revised Guidelines:

The proposed guidelines changes all pertain to the addition of a Staff Council Secretary as a regular staff position. This person will assume all the duties of the Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian, Historian, and Treasurer. There are now only two (2) elected officers for the Staff Council: Chairperson and Vice

Chairperson. Article IV outlines the new duties of the Secretary as being a long list of all the eliminated officer positions. This will mean that the Executive Committee will be reduced from nine (9) members to six (6).

Article III, Section B proposes that the Staff Council Secretary is a non-voting member of the Staff Council, unless elected as a Representative. We want to leave the option open for this staff person to be employed as the Staff Council Secretary and also run to serve as a regular member on the Staff Council. In Article III, Section D, we have proposed that the Staff Council Secretary will also serve as the chair of the annual Nominations and Elections Committee.

The proposed changes to the guidelines would take effect September 1, 2006 and need to be approved by UT System.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the revised Guidelines. The motion passed with a roll call vote taken.

OLD Business:

The SOM meeting room as been reserved through August.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Muller
Recording Secretary/Parliamentarian
April 6, 2006