The LSUS Staff Senate meeting was called to order by President Katie Simpson at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 11, 2011.

Staff Senators present included: Cindy Armstrong, Darlenna Atkins, Don Bloxom, Rebecca Chiles, Faye Lampkin, Daniel Miller, Bart Riggins, and Barbara Tillman

Staff Senators absent were: Susan Gutierrez, Rene McDonald, Alex Mitchell, and Anthony Washington

Minutes from the April 13, 2011 meeting were approved as written (Don Bloxom motioned to approve, motion passed).

President’s Comments
President Simpson welcomed Rebecca Chiles and Daniel Miller as our new staff senators.

Treasurer’s Report
President Simpson reported the balances of the Staff Senate’s account.

Staff Senate Support Fund has a balance of $1,945.28. It increased by $127.66 which was made through payroll deductions.

The Spring Luncheon was held on April 28th. There were 69 individuals who attended the event. Out of the 69 attendees, 32 individuals were members of the Staff Senate Support Fund, 33 were retired LSUS’ employees, and 4 paid guest. We received $517.50 as total payments from the guest. We were charged $519.75 by the Port. The Staff Senate had to cover the difference of $2.25 spent on food and $184.05 spent on plaques and decorations.

Guest Administrator Reports
Paul Sisson, Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, thanked Staff Senate for another successful year.

Mike Ferrell, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs, reported on several items. The latest information about the budget freeze from the Revenue Estimation Committee stated that there would be a surplus in the state’s budget. There has been a conference call requested with all the LSU campus and the committee. The call may yield information on the amounts of the unfunded mandates. As of yet, there is no confirmation on the call.

The outlook of the budget can be viewed by the following:

4.5 million – Loss from Federal Stimulus funds
1.7 million – Gain from one time sales and efficiency reorganization
1.2 million – Gain from TOPS expenditure
1.4 million – The balance from the above transactions that LSUS will have to cover

Some plans to cover the balance are through tuition increases and the ability to charge up to 15 credit hours.

The Executive Order puts a freeze on spending from the General Fund accounts. These are accounts beginning with the number one. At this time, we do not know if student worker wages are figured in the Executive Order. So as of now, we are continuing with their employment.

Old/Current Business
There is no old/current business to report.

New Business
It is now time for elections of the new positions as Staff Senate Officers. The vacant positions include Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. President Simpson read a brief description of the duties for each position.
The floor was opened for self and/or other nominations for Vice President.

   Cindy Armstrong nominated Rebecca Chiles whom declined.
Rebecca Chiles nominated Cindy Armstrong whom declined.
   Katie Simpson nominated Darlenna Atkins who accepted the nomination.

The floor was opened for self and/or other nominations for Secretary.

   Cindy Armstrong nominated Faye Lampkin whom declined.
Faye Lampkin nominated Barbara Tillman whom declined.

With no other nominations, this position had to be left vacant for the time being. President will send email out to all Staff Senators requesting a self nomination for this position over the summer. If no responses, the President will have to appoint someone to the position.

The floor was opened for self and/or other nomination for Treasurer.

   Bart Riggins nominated Daniel Miller who accepted the nominations.

With no other nominations, Don Bloxom motion to closed the elections by acclamation. The motion was carried.

**Senator Reports/Committees**

Katie Simpson - The Staff Senate committees have not started yet, but wanted to inform the Senators that there are three mandatory committees that have to be formed by the Staff Senate.
- Elections – This committee certifies the number in each EEO category. Keeps track of who is eligible to serve and who is not. Reports the election results.
- Benefits – This committee maintains the study for the need of additional staff. Looks at policies involving leave, benefits, insurance, etc.
- Long Range Review – This committee monitors the future needs related to staff. Monitors action taken by the legislature.

Other unofficial committees include the Holiday Luncheon and the Tailgate Party. An email will be sent about all the committees and asking for your participation.

Don Bloxom – The lighting project will replace old inefficient light bulbs with new ones in the BE building. The work will be completed at night during the break between spring and summer. Also, the lights in the 1st and 2nd floor of the Library will now be motion detected.

The LSUS baseball team is ranked #1. They will be participating in a Regional Tournament. If they win they’ll go to the World Series.

**Comments from Guest**

None

**Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.