Louisiana State University in Shreveport  
Staff Senate  
Minutes for September 21, 2011

The LSUS Staff Senate meeting was called to order by President Katie Simpson at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 21, 2011.

Staff Senators present included: Cindy Armstrong, Darlenna Atkins, Don Bloxom, Rebecca Chiles, Faye Lampkin, Daniel Miller, and Susan Gutierrez

Staff Senators absent were: Rene McDonald, Alex Mitchell, Barbara Tillman, and Anthony Washington

Minutes from the May 11, 2011 meeting were approved as written (Don Bloxom motioned to approve, motion passed).

President’s Comments
President Simpson plans to attend the Council of Staff Advisors meetings throughout the year; she will keep everyone informed of information received at these meetings. There were technical difficulties on the Baton Rouge campus that prevent everyone from attending the August meeting.

The fifth statewide joint meeting of the Louisiana Colleagues Collaborative and the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senators (ALFS) will take place this Saturday, September 24th, at 10:00 AM in the Live Oak Room of the LSU Alexandria Student Center. President Simpson will be unable to attend, but if anyone would like to attend to represent LSUS, please let her know and she will forward you the information.

Guest Administrator Reports
Dr. Alan Gabehart, Dean of the Noel Memorial Library, came to present the Staff Senate with a Certificate of Recognition for our support with the Save Louis campaign. Without any mid-year budget cuts, LOUIS should be able to maintain is year.

Mike Ferrell, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs, reported on several items. There have not been any updates on the budget. At the beginning of the year, the Group Benefits was reduced by $125,000. Every state agency received some type of cut. The funds are supposed to be received in the spring of 2012. However, the funds are supposed to be going back to the LSU-BR campus as a flagship fund.

There are good things going on around campus. There is a gas line being installed to connect with the boilers in the Noel Memorial Library. This will allow the campus to abandon the steam pipes. The funds being used are coming from maintenance money. There are T-building being used by the baseball and soccer teams. These buildings were donated by Bossier Parish School Board. The lighting project in the BE building and Library has been completed. However, we are waiting on the paperwork to get American made bulbs.

The State Travel Office is abandoning the state travel card. There is no date as to when it will end so it may be valid until the individual’s card expires. Those who haven’t been using the card will be removed from services. If a person needs to travel, they will need to go through Accounting Services and request a reimbursement.

Bill Wolfe, the Assistant Director of Human Resources, reported on the letter some may have received from Walgreens stating they could no longer support Express scripts as of January 2012. The HR department will keep everyone inform with any updates. Open Enrollment will take place in October. This will allow us coincide with the calendar year. The HR department will also be sending out information about available flu shots.

Julie Lessiter, the Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, reported on fall 2011 enrollment.

Total Enrollment – 4,635 students. This increased by 1.9% since last fall.
Dual Enrollment – 881 students. Fall 2010, we had 590 students.
First Time Freshmen – 332 students. This is slightly down compared to last fall.
Graduate Studies – 428 students. This is down compared to last fall.

The university has completed the assessment process. The goal was to have 80% by the deadline. LSUS actually entered 93% in the database.
Treasurer’s Report
Treasurer Daniel Miller reported the balances of the Staff Senate’s account.
Staff Senate Support Fund had a beginning 2011-12 fiscal period balance of $2,196.11. It has increased by $297.16 through payroll deductions over the summer. The ending balance is $2,493.27.

The Campus Federal Account has a remaining balance of $23.16. This was the account that was setup by Campus Federal to help with our prior Holiday Luncheons.

There are no other fiscal matters pending at this time.

Old/Current Business
Rene McDonald may be a volunteer to fill the position as Staff Senate Secretary.

New Business
There is no new business to report.

Senator Reports/Committees
Don Bloxom – Informed everyone that the fuel cost on the electric bill is going up. Encourage staff members to turn-off lights in rooms that are not being used. There was a suggestion for him to send out a Campus wide email.

The first conference soccer game is September 22, 2011.

Comments from Guest
None

Adjournment
There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 P.M.