

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT  
STAFF SENATE  
MINUTES  
MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> 2006

I. WELCOME

- i. The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup> 2006 by President Rita Lott. The following senators were present: Pam Corbitt, Willie Mae Thomas, Adnan Samhan, Jelisa Freeman, Rita Lott, Femand Garlington, Wally Derleth, Eddie Thomas, Nathaniel Robinson and Joseph Pearson.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ii. Minutes of the meeting dated February 8<sup>th</sup> 2006 were approved.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- i. No Report.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Baton Rouge Trip

- i. President Lott will be attending a teleconference meeting of the State Staff Association.

b. Committee Updates

i. Crisis Leave Program

- II. DeAnn Arnold has some good information from Baton Rouge that will assist the committee in making recommendations.

ii. Staff Senate Scholarship

- II. Some suggestions that were given were to: solicit funds from former staff members.

- III. Discussion of who would receive the scholarship, ie. Child of a staff member, any student etc. It is also possible to restrict the scholarship for just books, classes etc. Further discussion is needed in committee.

iii. Election Committee

- II. We do not have many nominations as of yet. Possibly we could extend the deadline. If we don't fulfill positions we can appoint people.

iv. Spring Luncheon Committee

- II. Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> will be the date of the Spring Luncheon. The committee is looking at the theme for next meeting.

v. Staff Senate Website

- II. The website should be up by May 1<sup>st</sup>. President Lott is working with James Bobbitt on the project.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of New President

- i. Senator Rita Lott was nominated as the next President of Staff Senate. Senator Lott accepted and was voted unanimously as the President elect for 2006-2007.
- b. Pilot Baseball
  - i. Pam Corbitt announced that on March 24<sup>th</sup> business affairs would hold its annual tailgate party at the ball game. Anyone interested in participating is welcome.

## VI. COMMENTS

- a. Adnan Samhan announced his appreciation to Mike Ferrell for attending the Staff Senate meetings and giving reports. He also asked if the Chancellor could be invited to address the rumored merger of LSUS with LATECH. Senator Samhan also would like Gloria Raines to attend the Staff Senate meeting to give reports about recruitment and other issues of concern to the staff.
- b. Discussion about the elevator in the UC. The elevator is currently being repaired/upgraded.
- c. Budgets were discussed. Currently experienced a 3.6% cut this year. There was talk about 8% additional cuts but this was avoided. Executive budgets for next year must plan the 3.6% cut along with increased in health insurance and step increases for classified staff. The Governor's proposed budget has a 5% salary increase built in for faculty, we would have to find the 5% for staff if it is approved by the legislature which may not even happen. A suggestion was given to send out a reminder email on the day of the staff senate meeting. Other information was given that the LSU Ag Center and UNO will lay off faculty and staff.
- d. DeAnn Arnold talked about the Drug/Alcohol policy statement. We are required by law to have one and that all employees sign their understanding of it. The signature page has been revised but the implication is the same.
- e. DeAnn Arnold also reported that a Human Rights task force has been created to look at changing the PTO (paid time off) schedule. Some of the proposals are to combine sick and annual leave into one pot. This is a system wide initiative and would need to be approved by the state legislature.
- f. Open enrollment season is upon us. Please contact DeAnn Arnold if you have any questions .

## VII. Adjournment