

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT  
STAFF SENATE  
MINUTES  
MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2006

I. WELCOME

- i. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. Wednesday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2006 by President Rita Lott. The following senators were present: Ed Robbins, Nathaniel Robinson, Willie Mae Thomas, Rita Lott, Pam Corbitt, Cyndi Olson, Fermand Garlington, Adnan Samhan, Joseph Pearson.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ii. Minutes of the meeting dated April 12<sup>th</sup> 2006 were approved.

III. COMMENTS FROM GUESTS

a. Mike Ferrell

- i. There will be a movie crew on campus the week of May 15<sup>th</sup>. The movie is a made for TV called, "The Initiation of Sarah". They will be filming in various locations across campus.
- ii. Our LSUS Pilot's baseball team has won the GCAC Tournament and will be playing in a regional tournament for a chance to go to National Competition. It's been a great year for athletics.
- iii. No new information on the budget situation. The legislature won't act on the budgets until the end of the session. We all should remember that students pay at least half of all our salaries and they are why we even have a job.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. President Lott received some information from the LA Council of Staff Advisors. The committee approved PM-37 which will be distributed to all Chancellors in the system. President Lott will distribute PM-37 so that everyone will be aware of what it entails.
- b. President Lott met with the Chancellor and talked about getting some office space for Staff Senate to keep the traveling file cabinet. The College of Business said they would donate a computer to Staff Senate.
- c. President Lott gave an invitation to the Chancellor to attend the Staff Senate Meetings.
- d. President Lott is working with James Bobbitt on getting the Staff Senate website up and running.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Committee Updates

- i. Crisis Leave Program
  - II. No report
- ii. Staff Senate Scholarship

- II. The Scholarship Committee met on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Items discussed include options for starting the scholarship. One recommendation is to start an endowment. It would require \$10,000 to start an endowment. The amount of the scholarship would be based on interest earned on the principle. The other option would be to fund scholarships until money runs out. The committee discussed fundraisers such as: raffles, silent auctions, talent night with entry fee, intramural participation, and “taste of” LSUS.
  - III. Discussion ensued about who would benefit from such a scholarship: Potentially a staff member who wants to take classes, a dependant child of staff member.
  - IV. Questions were asked about what kind of criteria the scholarship would have such as financial hardship etc.
  - V. Questions were asked as to the benefit of the whole staff or just one or two. Are fundraising efforts better used for activities that benefit the entire staff and not just a small number of individuals?
  - VI. A suggestion was made to create a survey to see what staff members would be willing to help put a scholarship together.
- iii. Spring Luncheon Committee
    - II. Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> will be the date of the Spring Luncheon. Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for signing up and collecting money. Reminder to get the word out.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Thank you to Willie Mae Thomas for her long and dedicated service on the Staff Senate. Miss Willie Mae suggests posting written notices for when meetings will take place. She has appreciated the opportunity to serve and the opportunity Staff Senate has given her to speak out about things important to her.
- b. Thank you to Wally Derleth for his service on the Staff Senate.
- c. Installation of new Senators
  - i. New Senators representing Administrator/Managers are: Cheryl Crain, Elmer Tingler.
  - ii. The new Senator representing Clerical is: Darlene Player
  - iii. New Senators representing Other Professionals are: James Loar, Nicki Lafitte.
  - iv. The new Senator representing Technical/Paraprofessional is: Joseph Cordaro.
- d. Election of new officers:
  - i. Pam Corbitt was nominated for Vice President. No other candidates were nominated. Pam was approved unanimously.
  - ii. Joseph Pearson was nominated for Secretary. No other candidates were nominated. Joseph was approved unanimously.

## VII. COMMENTS

- a. There will be an orientation for all staff senators in August.
- b. Suggestion to assign new staff to staff senators as mentors
- c. Committee was formed to explore doing a voluntary payroll deduction for staff members that would pay for social and other staff activities that others would pay for at the door. Nicki Lafitte will chair that committee.
- d. Follow up discussion about recruitment efforts:
  - i. Some didn't feel like the question was answered as to why several staff members' children didn't receive recruitment documents from LSUS.
  - ii. Continued discussion about the impact of higher enrollment standards, and under prepared high school students who are being pushed towards community colleges.
  - iii. Comments relative to poor or no press in the local paper or news.
  - iv. Question was asked if there was a correlation between the staff turnover in the student affairs division and lower recruitment.
- e. Don Bloxom commented that there will be concrete work this summer in the parking lot outside the BE building.

VIII. Adjournment