



## Staff Senate Minutes

July 9, 2014 – 1:15 p.m.

7<sup>th</sup> St. Underground Loft, MLK Union

No Quorum

**Senators Present:** Christine Edwards, Melissa Gordon, Suzann Bennett, Angie Campbell, Tina Jenkins, John Warner, Adam Due, Jonathan Hunt, Derek Light, Leah Reynolds, Shawn Peoples

**Senators Absent:** Mike Carter, Zoraida Irizarry, Cindy Starwalt, Melissa Coleman, Susan DeRousse, Jeff Marlo

**Guests:** Paul McCann, Interim VP Business Affairs

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

Introduction of new senate members

**Treasurer's Report:** New fiscal year amount not loaded into account yet. VP McCann said it would be the same amount as last year, \$2,047.50. Senator Jenkins asked about the possibility of giving back money from our account due to EIU budget constraints. Jenkins then made a motion to fund the account with \$1,500.00 instead of the regular amount. Motion was seconded by Senator Bennett. Due to lack of quorum, an electronic vote will take place.

Interim VP McCann reported on the budget. A few decisions have been made on how to implement cost savings. VP's have been engaged in thoughts about cost savings in respective areas. By the beginning of the fall semester, an announcement will be made as to what will be changing across campus. There were 82 retirees in FY 14, amounting to \$4 million in savings. Some positions would be hired back. Further announcements will be given at the beginning of the fall semester. FY 15 enrollment is down about 7% and there continues to be budget concerns for FY 16. Some discussion about early retirement systems and how they have worked in other institutions, (i.e. information received regarding IDOC early retirement system). Other inquiries included A & P/Civil Service positions and possible re-classification in the future, projected enrollment numbers for Fall 2014, factors contributing to lower enrollment numbers, flat rate tuition options to enhance enrollment, survey assessments for parents/students looking at our institution (interests noted include cost and future ability for students to find jobs following graduation), expansion of academic programs in which increased numbers of students who show high interest (ex. Technology, Athletic Training, Health Information Technology, Counseling, Communication Disorders & Sciences).

**Committee Reports:**

Budget & Planning Committee- Strategic Planning- has not met, CUPB – will not meet until fall classes resume, Naming Committee- last naming opportunity in May including that for Deborah Woodley. It will be reviewed again in 2015, as employee must be retired two years prior to the naming opportunity on campus.

Election Committee – Senator Jenkins reported results of recent election.

Liaison Committee- No report

Personnel Policies, Benefits, Welfare – Senator Bennett gave a summary of recent IL Supreme Court ruling on retiree health care benefits.

Ad-Hoc Committees- No report

**Old Business:** President Edwards mentioned the Shout Out page was our way to support staff morale and recognize their contributions to EIU.

**New Business:**

**Officers elected for upcoming year are:** President – Christine Edwards, Vice President – Melissa Gordon, Secretary – Suzann Bennett, Treasurer – Angie Campbell.

Committee assignments were discussed. Senators should review committee purposes and email Christine with preferences before assignments are made.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Suzann Bennett, Secretary

Next Meeting: August 13, 2014, 7<sup>th</sup> Street Underground Loft, MLK Union, 1:15 p.m.