



Staff Senate Minutes

April 8, 2015 – 1:15 p.m.

7th Street Underground Loft, MLK Union

Senators Present: Suzann Bennett, Angie Campbell, Joann Daugherty, Susan DeRousse, Adam Due, Christine Edwards, Christine Jenkins, Derek Light, Shawn Peoples, Leah Reynolds, Ryan Siegel, Cindy Starwalt, John Warner

Senators Absent: Jonathan Hunt, Renee Kerz, Tony Craven, Melissa Coleman, Melissa Gordon

Guests: Paul McCann, Interim VP Business Affairs, Dr. Richard Enyard, Director, Human Resources, Brad Green, Director of Development/Interim Director of Annual Fund, 2 EIU School of Technology grad students

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Edwards at 1:18 p.m.

Presentation by Brad Green – Brad Green informed the Staff Senate about the new EIU Community Commitment to Excellence Scholarship and its campaign launch. Faculty and Staff can donate towards a fund endowment or an annual scholarship. A committee, made up of Faculty/Staff Senates, Council of Chairs, and the Honors Council, will be instituted to select scholarship recipients. He urged all staff members to consider making a donation and offered several ways to pledge an amount. Pledge cards will be forthcoming in campus mail.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the February meeting were approved. (Light/Jenkins)
The minutes from the March meeting were approved. (Siegel/Light)

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$296.04. Senator Campbell stated that the President's office would match the funds Staff Senate donated to the Homecoming luncheon.

Motion was made by Senator Jenkins to move \$295.00 to the Homecoming luncheon account to help cover costs of meal. Motion 2nd by Senator Campbell. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Senator Bennett to challenge the Faculty Senate for matching funds for the Homecoming luncheon. Motion 2nd by Senator Jenkins. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

A. Budget & Planning Committee –

CUPB –Committee discussed Community Commitment to Excellence Scholarships.

A consultant was hired to review operations at CATS with the purpose of possibly consolidating services to save money. The consultant's report is being finalized and will be presented to Dr. Perry for review.

EIU received notice from the State of Illinois of a further 2.25% cut for FY 15, amounting to about \$1 Million. VP McCann said Eastern will use money it has not spent yet and will look at deferred maintenance contracts to make up the amount.

For FY 16, EIU is looking at staging cuts, depending on the amount cut. McCann said there were not a lot of expenses to cut; it was coming down to payroll and salaries.

B. Election Committee – Elections will be held on April 30th.

C. Liaison Committee – None

D. Personnel Policies, Benefits & Welfare Committee – Had not met.

E. Staff Outreach – Senator Jenkins made a motion on behalf of the committee to amend the Constitution to dissolve The Staff Outreach Committee. Motion was 2nd by Derek Light. The rationale was that the committee is no longer necessary because the EIU Student Community Service Office is engaged in similar functions and initiatives. Senator Jenkins passed around the Amendment Petition and asked for the required signatures.

F. Ad-Hoc Committees –

Staff Recognition/Development Committee – President Edwards said the Shout-Out Page had been well received. There have been over 150 Shout-Outs since its inception.

Supervisors are being notified when their employee receives a Shout-Out. CATS and Christine will make a short presentation about the Shout-Out Page at the BOT meeting on April 24, 2015.

Constituent Reports: Derek Light, 981, reminded senators that HB 403, the bill concerning half tuition for children of state employees, was out of committee and would be coming up for a vote.

Unfinished Business: The progress of amending the Constitution and Bylaws was discussed. The committee felt like it needed an additional member to help with the review process. Shawn Peoples volunteered to help and was added to the committee.

The new Smoking Policy is in preliminary draft stage and is with the President's Council. It will be out by May 1st and be effective on July 1, 2015. UPD will monitor the policy.

New Business: - Dr. Perry's last day at EIU will be May 15, 2015. Staff Senate will host a reception for Dr. Perry to thank him for his service to EIU and to say goodbye. Susan DeRousse will bake a cake for the party and punch will be served. Christine will get a card for all senators to sign.

Staff Senate would like to help out with any tasks on Panther Service Day. Also, Earth Wise has volunteered to clean the route that Eastern takes new students on during Open House days.

Questions for the President: None

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn. (DeRousse/Warner) Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Suzann Bennett, Secretary

Next Meeting: May 13, 2015, 7th Street Underground Loft, MLK Union, 1:15 p.m.