

Staff Council Minutes

February 8, 2011

Present: Curtis VonLintel, Melissa Lewis, Lynn Bailey, Jennifer Bixel, Teresa Vasquez, Lou Olsen, Donna Clark, Dona K. Walker, Mindy Rendon, Mary Allen, Marcia Lessenden, Jackie Askren, Brenda White, and Vicki Baer

Lynn called the meeting to order. From his meeting with Dr. Farley, he learned that the budget committee will schedule meetings to be held in the next two weeks. At the January 17th Board of Regents meeting, Dr. Farley purposed a 2% cost of living allowance for employees. Also presented to the Board of Regents is a tuition increase and a projection of a possible increase of 10% in health insurance. Budget items were tabled until the April Board meeting. At this point, the Governor has not proposed any budget cuts on higher education. The ISS Director vacancy will be posted in the near future. Snow closings and cancellations went smoothly this month with better communication.

Benefits Committee did not meet because of a snow closure day; an approximate 10% increase in health insurance premiums is expected.

Lynn distributed a packet of Staff Council minutes for the time period November 2009 through September 2010 as a set to be reviewed by Council members. Minutes during this timeframe were not posted online to the Staff Council Website, as is the usual practice upon their approval by Staff Council. This packet of minutes will be posted as a set just as they are presented. Lynn asked all Council members to review them and email by next Wednesday, February 9, 2011 to staffcouncil@washburn.edu if any errors are found.

Lynn asked for a member to assist in his absence with the Employee Recognition Ceremony to be held April 19. Dona Walker volunteered. Lynn encouraged everyone to nominate their worthy co-workers. The voting process to select the recipients will be managed by University Relations.

There was no new business.

Dona Walker announced two events: the Steal Away monologue to be held February 22, noon, in Washburn B, and speaker Eric Alva's presentation on "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" on February 17, 7:00 pm in the Washburn Room.

Lynn was asked to clarify the difference between campus closing and cancellation. Campus closing means that the campus is completely closed, with only essential personnel reporting to work. Cancellation means that classes are cancelled but the University is open for business with employees expected to report to work.

As a general rule, Lynn plans to hold monthly Staff Council meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by Vicki Baer

Staff Council Secretary