FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

STAFF SENATE MEETING

J.C. Jones Board Room, 2nd Floor, Charles Chesnutt Library

Thursday, April 18, 2019

2:00 p.m.

The FSU Staff Senate convened on Thursday, April 18, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in the J.C. Jones Board Room, in the Charles Chesnutt Library. President Velappan Velappan called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following Senators were in attendance: Suzetta Perkins, Terra Poole, Kristy Presock, Claudette Fuller, Stephania Oates, Roni Sterns, Cindy Weatherwax, Linda Saunders Gloria Mills, Velappan Velappan, Patricia Flanigan, Shenetta Dudley, Paula Sampson, Nicole Young, David Troup, and Winette Vann.

**MINUTES**

As there wasn’t a quorum, the minutes of the March 21, 2019 meeting were not approved.

**DR. YOUNG’S REPORT**

Chief of Staff and Vice Chancellor, Dr. Jon Young, announced that he received a notification that Dr. Grace Black passed away today. Dr. Black was a prominent member of the FSU family. She was a former Dean in the College of Business and Economics.

The visit from acting President, Dr. Roper went well. A number of the Staff Senate members met with him. Dr. Roper spoke briefly about the Employment Engagement Survey.

The Chancellor’s Cabinet approved a plan to upgrade the service awards. Also, a working group is planning a Family Fun Day.

Dr. Young thanked the Senate for their outreach and all that we do in service to the university.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Ms. Krysty Presock from Employee Relations spoke briefly about the upcoming staff appreciation. She stated that she reached out to three or four vendors to produce the service awards and hopes to get one this year.

Senator Roni Sterns stated that recipients of the awards won’t be everyone over the course of years, but those who actually will celebrate a 5-10-15 etc. year anniversary in the current year. Next year, the plan is to make the awards retro-active. A suggestion was to have certificates made for those who’s years of service are 20 and above and have those who have service years 15 and under stand up.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Velappan attended the quarterly meeting of the UNC Staff Assembly in Chapel Hill on March 25-26. The Parental Leave Initiative that offers paid-leave to the spouse (maternity leave) was submitted by the Working Group from the UNC Staff Assembly. A proposal of eight (8) weeks minimum and/or 12 weeks preferred was recommended. The Adverse Weather Policy proposal that addresses category 2 and 3 workers was also submitted.

President Velappan announced that Senator Natasha Walker has resigned her position as acting-President. The sitting President must serve as a delegate the UNC Staff Assembly and Senator Walker didn’t believe she could commit to the obligations she’d have to meet. The Staff Senate Executive Committee discussed this in their meeting on Monday, and a made a motion to eliminate the acting-President that shadows the sitting president in their last year. Senator Suzetta Perkins made a motion to amend the ByLaws. Senator Cindy Weatherwax second the motion. The motion carried. Senator Patricia Flanigan stated that she will amend the By-Laws and send it out for approval by the Senate at the next meeting.

Score card – This was an initiative in support of increasing salaries to market value. The Working Group is still working on it.

The Chancellor’s Cup Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. The Chancellor’s and Staff teams are all set. President Velappan reminded participates that they don’t need to take leave for this event.

President Velappan Velappan asked for volunteers for Commencement: Friday morning Graduate Ceremony; Saturday morning, Undergraduate Ceremony. President Velappan also stated that some Staff Senators haven’t returned their regalia. He asked that an email be sent to those who’ve checked them out.

Senator Gloria Mills thanked everyone who participated in the Backpack Lunch Buddies Program. She was overwhelmed with joy with the donations received. With the food received she was able to give out more, utilizing plastic baggies, and it was befitting as this was the long Easter weekend. Westarea Elementary School was selected to receive our donations and they will be handed out today. Senator Mills also stated that we received 16 oz. cans of fruits and vegetables that we can’t pass out to the children. Instead, we will donate it to the Food Pantry on campus. Senator Mills also thanked Second Harvest for furnishing barrels for collection.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Bylaws Committee:** Chair Patricia Flanigan stated that she will work on making the changes to the By-Laws per our discussion today.

**The Publications/Communications Committee:** Chair Suzetta Perkins stated that she is still waiting on several articles to complete the newsletter. Hopefully, it will be out in the next couple of weeks.

**Election Committee:** Chair Patricia Flanigan stated that the nomination process has been completed. Two areas (Chancellor’s Office and Academic Affairs) will vote on new Senators. The Chancellor’s Office had two nominations, with only one vacant seat. Academic Affairs had seven nominations, with five vacant seats). The outcome will be announced at the next meeting.

**Events Committee:** Senator Paula Sampson reported that 65 letters were sent out to possible vendors. Of the 65, 10 have responded in the affirmative. She added 15 new vendors to the list, of which all have agreed to participate.

The theme for this year’s luncheon is “The Legacy Continues” – Unmask your true potential. The theme will have a Mardi Gras effect. We will possibly have a speaker. Tara. Masks will be part of the decorations, and Senator Terra Poole asked all who could assemble, paint etc. to volunteer. She inquired about the budget as she would need at least $500 to complete her task.

A full-fledge inquiry was made for the budget update. How much money do we have on hand? How much money was raised during the Murder Mystery event? It was noted that we were in the red. Mr. Persil wrote off expenses for the meal.

President Velappan said that he would check with Natasha Walker. It was noted that we will need a monthly report, grant account report, fundraising amounts, and if we have any money in the Chancellor’s accounts.

**Grants Committee:** In order to receive one of our grants, one must be in an FSU undergrad/grad program or certificate program. It couldn’t be used toward a GRE.

**NEW SUBJECT**: Senator Roni Sterns stated that a Mental Health First Aid program is on the horizon. It is direly needed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 pm.