FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

STAFF SENATE MEETING

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

Thursday, February 21, 2019

2:00 p.m.

The FSU Staff Senate convened on Thursday, February 21, 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 2:13 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following Senators were in attendance: Velappan Velappan, Patricia Flanigan, Shenetta Dudley, Suzetta Perkins, Gloria Mills, Tamika Jones, Arnescia Moody, Paula Sampson, Linda Saunders, Michelle Saunders, Nicole Young, Monique Alexander, Roni Sterns, Winette Vann, and Natasha Walker.

**MINUTES**

Senator Suzetta Perkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2019, Staff Senate meeting. Senator Arnescia Moody second the motion. The motion carried.

**DR. YOUNG’S REPORT**

Chief of Staff and Vice Chancellor, Dr. Jon Young, stated that the Staff Senate Murder Mystery Dinner was wonderful. It took place Saturday, February 16th and it was great time had by many.

Dr. Young addressed the Employee Engagement Survey. An ad-hoc committee has been formed and will meet next week. Coming out of that meeting, the committee should have information to 6 or 7 actions they’d like to begin strategy planning initiatives on. A steering committee comprised of various groups…staff, faculty, members of both faculty and staff senates etc. will study and review a draft Employee Engagement Action Plan. The strategic plan will hopefully be ready for approval in December 2019 and be in effect 2020 – 2025.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Ms. Krysty Presock from Employee Relations attended our meeting. She stated that she interested in how we could work together.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Velappan attended the quarterly meeting of the UNC Staff Assembly in Chapel Hill and discussed concerns and issues. One concern was policy issues.

The Adverse Weather Policy has been a source of contention. The policy is not easily understood. A letter was sent to the interim University President, Dr. William Roper asking for clarity regarding:

1. Stay required to stay home but must use leave. Many employees don’t have enough leave time to cover the adverse weather situations we had this year.
2. Make up time (issue)
3. Employees who have five years or less of leave…
4. Recommendation: If employees are asked to leave that the state should bear the cost.

The Parental Leave Initiative was another concern. The Working Group from the UNC Staff Assembly recommends four (4) weeks of paid leave.

The Chancellor’s Cup Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at Tobacco Rod. FSU is co-hosting and we’ll need anywhere from 10 to 12 volunteers to help in this effort. Senator Tammika Frowner is FSU’s coordinator. The tournament is a fundraiser for staff scholarships. FSU will have a Chancellor’s team and a staff team. Last year, $40,000 was collected with a profit of $22,000. Ten thousand dollars of the profits went towards the support of the Janet B. Royster Scholarship Fund. Ms. Ann Zomerfeld in the Chancellor’s Office received $1,000.

Senator Patricia Flanigan shared the results of the Murder Mystery Dinner hosted by the Staff Senate. She stated that it was a complete success and an elegant affair. The committee worked very hard in making it a success. Different members who were in attendance expressed their thoughts on the evening. All comments were very positive and would like to see something of this magnitude happen again, even a second annual Murder Mystery Dinner. The financial report from the dinner is forthcoming from Senator Natasha Walker. Senator Flanigan thanked the committee for their hard work—in front of and behind the scenes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**The Publications Committee** met on Tuesday, February 20th. Chair Suzetta Perkins stated that discussions were held about the features to be presented in the upcoming newsletter. Deadline for publication of the newsletter is March 31.

**Bylaws Committee:** Chair Patricia Flanigan stated that the By-Laws were recently updated but need to be updated again. She will try and have the information ready soon to send to the Secretary for dissemination to the Senate for their review and final vote.

**Election Committee:** Chair Michelle Saunders stated that the Election Committee met on Wednesday. They discussed the selected time frame to administer the elections and the step-by-step process. CANVAS has its challenges but trying to work through it.

It was suggested that all the major Human Resources components come to the next Senate meeting, introduce themselves so that we know who they are.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Senator Gloria Mills provided an update regarding the Backpack program. She stated that we will be supporting the West Area Elementary School this year in the FSU Backpack Lunch Buddies Food Drive slated for February 1 – 28, 2019. The list of items the children can receive was provided in the email that went out campus-wide. We will again support as many as 75 children. Last year we had a lot left over, and some of it was donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank. FSU recently opened a food pantry for students, and it was asked if we could donate any leftovers to them. Senator Mills stated that what we’re collecting are small sizes for the children to be self-sufficient. However, she will look into it.

Senator Monique Alexander was asked to update us regarding the Computer Loan Program. Senator Alexander stated three desktop computers are available and she’s in the process of finding a location to store them. Met with Michelle in ITTS to discuss further. There are still some internal issues to deal with that include completing transfer documents and how will the Senate be able to obtain them—write-offs?

During Employee Appreciation Week, it was suggested that we have a Fun Run that can be held in conjunction with Health and Wellness day.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm.