FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

STAFF SENATE MEETING

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

Thursday, January 17, 2019

2:00 p.m.

The FSU Staff Senate convened on Thursday, January 17, 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 2:11 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following Senators were in attendance: Velappan Velappan, Patricia Flanigan, Shenetta Dudley, Suzetta Perkins, Gloria Mills, Linda Saunders, Cindia Weatherwax, Tammiika Frowner, Nicole Young, Dwane Hodges, Monique Alexander, Roni Sterns, and Natasha Walker.

**MINUTES**

Senator Suzetta Perkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2018 and December 20, 2018 Staff Senate meetings. Senator Tammika Frowner asked that a revision be made to the December 20th meeting minutes—to adjust the amount of the Poinsettia sale from $2,000 to $810.

**DR. YOUNG’S REPORT**

Chief of Staff and Vice Chancellor, Dr. Jon Young, stated that FSU received a 3.7% rating for completing the Employee Engagement Survey. He also stated that the Mid-Year Conference convened on January 10, 2019. Recommendations from the group sessions are being compiled. Action plans will be developed utilizing the results used to make improvements. The CEO of the Gates Foundations will visit FSU March 24 – 27. Dr. Sue Desmond-Hellman is the philanthropic arm of the Gates Foundation.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Velappan provided an update from the break-out session he participated in that was held during the Mid-Year Conference. The breakout session he attended was “Improving the Participation of the Staff Senate in Shared Governance.” President Velappan stated that 25 staff members attended. The major discussion was that of Faculty and Staff Senates working together and discussing common issues.

Increased employee engagement by way of DiSC Training for Staff Senate's Executive Officers from HR was offered. President Velappan has encouraged many of us to attend the training. DiSC profile is a powerful do-it-yourself training and development tool designed to improve work productivity, teamwork, and communication.

The Chancellor’s Cup Golf Tournament will be held on May 15, 2019. FSU is co-hosting again with Pembroke. Senator Tammika Frowner is FSU’s coordinator. She will be working on procuring gifts, snacks, sponsors and volunteers for the event.

Senator Cassandra Jenkins (Business and Finance) resigned from the Staff Senate due to a promotion and an increased workload. Senator Monique Alexander had replaced her.

An Events Planning Committee needs to be formed. President Velappan suggested that the Staff and Faculty Senates combine efforts for the upcoming Employee Appreciation Week celebration that we usually hold in May after the students are gone for the summer. Different one’s expressed their opinions. A suggestion was made to table the joint effort until next year, as more information needs to be gathered to make decisions about awards etc. As faculty members are usually gone after Commence-ment, it was suggested that the date be moved back to accommodate them. However, due to all the year-end activities students are involved, and since we would want to use the Student Center for our event, again it was suggested that we study this more in-depth and wait until next year. Senator Suzetta Perkins objected to the idea of combining the event to accommodate both staff and faculty, as she felt that having faculty would take away from staff. The faculty has many award events, i.e., Teacher of the Year; unit awards that have monetary connotations.

The Poinsettia Fundraising Event was a success. Senator Linda Saunders stated in Chair Senator Michelle Saunders’ absence that we would need to begin the fundraiser much earlier. Total amount of the sale was $810.00. Expenses were $521.85 that yielded a profit of $288.15.

The Staff Senate awarded two $250.00 grants for Spring 2019 at the December holiday party hosted by Chancellor Anderson. The recipients were Ms. Paula Sampson and Ms. Kelisha Graves.

Senator Gloria Mills stated that we would again participate in the FSU Backpack Lunch Buddies Food Drive slated for February 1 – 28, 2019. A fundraising form was submitted to Institutional Advancement and Senator Mills is waiting to hear from them. She spoke also about the event on last year and how it blessed so many young children and thanked all of the staff members who supported the effort. Senator Linda Saunders asked if we could partner with another school this year to spread the wealth. Senator Mills stated that she has already contacted Ferguson Easley Elementary School but would take Senator Saunders suggestion under consideration.

The Murder Mystery Dinner is slated for February 16, 2019. It will be a sit-down dinner. Excitement was in the air. Ray Thomas from the radio station has agreed to be the narrator for the event at a cost of $200.00. The cast consists of ten people: five males and five females. The cast will be the only persons to receive a copy of the script. The event is semi-formal. Captains were given tickets to pass out to those members assigned to them. Tickets will be sold for $50/person; $75/couple; and $350/table (8 seats). Proceeds after expenses will go toward the Education Grant. Senator Patricia Flanagan and team are the contacts.

Dates on the horizon are election of senators and officer (January to April 2019); Mr. and Ms. Staff (April 2019); Chancellor’s Cup Gold Tournament (May 15, 2019); Staff Appreciation Week (May 20-23, 2019); Staff Appreciation Luncheon (May 23, 2019); Staff Senate Retreat (June 20, 2019).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There weren’t any committee reports. President Velappan asked Senator Suzetta Perkins who chairs the Communication/Publication Committee to commit to having the next Staff Senate Newsletter out in the month of March.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.