

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES
STAFF SENATE MEETING
J.C. Jones Board Room, 2nd Floor, Charles Chesnutt Library
Thursday, April 19, 2018
2:00 p.m.

The FSU Staff Senate convened on Thursday, April 19, 2018, 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 2:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

The following were in attendance: Suzetta Perkins, Cindy Weatherwax, Winette Vann, Velappan Velappan, Patricia Flanigan, Linda Saunders, Duane Hodges, Shenetta Dudley, Gloria Mills, Tammika Frowner, Nicholle Young and Keith Townsend.

MINUTES

Due to the absence of a quorum, the minutes for March 15, 2018.

DR. JON YOUNG

Dr. Jon Young, Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, shared that the Chancellor's Cabinet has approved flex time, beginning May 14. On May 9th, there will be a meeting in Chapel Hill in which the results of the Employee Engagement Survey will be given. FSU had an approximate 64% response rate.

In the last few years, we have sustained major budget reductions. Dr. Young stated that we were hoping that the burden of the budget would be lighter, however, it appears that the budget may be even tighter this year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Chancellor's Golf Tournament is fast approaching. The event will again take place at the Tobacco Road site. President Velappan stated that we need four members for the staff team. He will send a memo out campus-wide to recruit. Eight staff volunteers have signed up to help with the event.

March 26-27, President Velappan and other attended the UNC Staff Assembly Meeting. A total of \$73,000 had been raised for scholarships and was split between the seventeen campuses. The awarding of scholarships will become an annual event.

The Backpack Buddies Food Drive program was a success. Senator Gloria Mills brought the program to the Senate at the beginning of the year. This effort was in support of Ferguson Easley Elementary School, who sponsored the program. Senator Mills was so excited about the outpouring of donations, she could hardly contain herself. A little over 990 pounds of food items were donated, which equated to 75 bags filled with requested items. We had left overs and was able to donate to the Second Harvest Food Bank and Margaret Willis Elementary School, who is sponsoring a similar program and were able to accept some items that were not accepted at Ferguson Easley. And because we have other items left over, Senator Mills said that we will fill 75 more bags. We will need additional items to complete the bags. Senator Mills and President Velappan thanked Senator Tammikka Frowner for the use of her room and time in bagging up the items. Senator Mills thanked everyone who donated and helped to make this project a success.

In the absence of Senator Walker, President Velappan stated that Senator Walker has received responses for the Mr. and Ms. Staff event. Monies raised will be used strictly for the staff scholarship grant.

Financial Wellness Week will take place on campus May 21 – 25. The benefits department in Human Resources will facilitate. They will coordinate with the Staff Senate during our Health and Wellness Day on Monday of that week, in which we will supply them a station so that they may share information to the campus public.

Senator Linda Saunders reiterated the dates for the various events happening during Employee Appreciation Week.

- Monday – Health and Wellness Day
- Tuesday – Ice Cream Social at the Gazebo from 12-2
- Wednesday – Karaoke and chicken day, after which we will decorate for the luncheon
- Thursday – Employee Appreciation Luncheon from 12-2 in the multi-purpose room in the RJSC.

The celebration and theme is in conjunction with the Sesquicentennial celebration. Senator Suzetta Perkins stated that she and Senator Sandra Hughes met and decided on the menu for the luncheon. Senator Perkins submitted a tentative order and cost came to approximately \$8,100. Senator Perkins also spoke with budget person and was approved for \$8,500.

At the UNC Staff Assembly meeting, there was further discussion about certain ITTS staff members' status changing from SHRA to EHRA. President Velappan also stated that two proposals were submitted to Present Margaret Spellings, the first being 1) the sharing of community service leave hours should another person need it, 2) change in adverse weather policy (the use of leave when having to make up adverse weather days).

The budget is even tighter this year and a reorganization through reduction—retirement or otherwise—will take place. The System will be looking for volunteers to step up. Also, beginning 2021, anyone who hires on at the university (systemwide) will not be eligible for benefits.

President Velappan reported that 22,000 completed the Engagement Survey—an average of 51% systemwide. FSU had a 60% completion rate; Charlotte had 72%. Sixty-three percent of the responses were positive; 24% negative. I wasn't sure about the other 13%.

The Janet B. Royster Scholarships were awarded. Nine scholarships were given for a total of \$7,714 that were spread throughout eight campuses. The semi-annual disbursement of the scholarship will now be given out annually.

Also discussed at the Staff Assembly meeting was going from monthly to bi-weekly pay periods. Presently, eight schools in the system are on the bi-weekly pay period, while nine are not.

President Margaret Spellings is encouraging each campus to commit to a Day of Service.

We have a current budget of approximately \$6,000 to fund the Staff Senate operations. We will need an additional \$4,000 to completely fund the Employee Appreciation Week festivities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Election Committee – Senator Patricia Flanigan provided the Senate with an update. She stated that Canvas has been set up and currently, nominations are being held for the Academic Affairs, Business and Finance, Office of the Chancellor, and Student Affairs Divisions. Voting ends April 20th. Another reminder will be sent shortly. Next Monday, the nominees will be downloaded in preparation for voting.

Grants Committee – Senator Duane Hodges stated the Committee agreed to grant two scholarships instead of one this year. A \$250 grant will be awarded for anyone seeking a long-term degree and an award up to \$250 will be awarded for anyone seeking a short-term degree. April 30th will be open enrollment, ending May 11. Since there wasn't a quorum, information will be sent out by Survey Monkey for voting.

Old Business – President Velappan reminded the Senate that we will be having the gavel ceremony during the current and past Staff Senate Presidents at the Staff Appreciation Luncheon. As well, former Mr. and Ms. Staffs will be extended to be a part of that ceremony.

Senator Linda Saunders thanked everyone who contributed to Kevin Davis' floral memorial.

Senator Tammikka Frowner inquired about the Staff Senate's giving in the Capital Campaign. Dr. Young stated that he would try and get figures for us.

It was suggested that we have flags on poles commemorating our 150th Anniversary the length of Murchison Road. The Senate liked the idea but suggested that the flags begin on Murchison Road and end at Skibo/Pamalee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.