Minutes

Attendance: Patricia Flanigan, Carlitta Moore, Claudette Fuller, Cindy Wetherwax, LaTasha Jones, Nicholle Young, Byron Riddick, Velappan Velappan, Linda Saunders, Diana Anthony, Stephanie Oates, Fred Stamps, Sandra Smith and Xenia Lopez.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by President Patricia Flanigan. She reminded all to sign the attendance sheet.

The Agenda for the meeting was approved.

There were no minutes presented for approval since no minutes were taken at the June meeting.

President Flanigan welcomed Chancellor James Anderson and stated it is always an honor when he visits.

Chancellor James A. Anderson –

1. Dr. Anderson stated the University is gearing up for the sesquicentennial (150 years) celebration and requested anyone who would like to be part of a committee can volunteer. He added, for the celebration to be a success, it will take all of FSU to make this happen.
2. He reminded of the Capital Campaign and asked to get the word out to the staff for contributing.
3. He reminded Dr. Conway is the liaison for the Staff Senate and to let him know of any concerns there may be.
4. The Strategic Plan will be implemented as well as the planning of the sesquicentennial celebration. He requested the Staff Senate should look at the Strategic Plan and see where the senate could play a role.
5. He reiterated whenever there are concerns to come forward for assistance from his office.
6. He stated the senate will again be provided with a budget for this academic year.
7. Senator Byron Riddick asked on status of the enrollment. Chancellor Anderson replied enrollment was up and it was great news.
8. Lastly, Chancellor Anderson stated, we will continue to market FSU and see how the University can continue to grow.

Dr. Thomas Conway –

1. Dr. Conway stated enrollment was up for non-traditional and transfer students. He added that FSU problem is retention and keeping returning students. The enrollment head count was at 6,100 thus far. In addition, FSU is looked at as having the oldest students in the UNC system due to our non-traditional and transfer students. In the plans are to establish some cafes-like venues accessible for our older students to use.
2. He stated FSU employees should talk as a group and should develop a parallel campaign where all can talk good things about FSU.

3. Dr. Conway informed us that Ms. Brown-Hart is leaving FSU and Mr. Ben Simmons will be assuming the interim AVC for HR role.

4. He requested a representative from the Staff Senate to be on the committee for selecting the new AVC-HR.

5. Dr. Conway added the Staff Senate will be provided with a budget this year so as to avoid many fundraisers. We do not want too many complaints from supervisors due to fundraisers and staff being out of the office.

President’s Report – Patricia Flanigan

1. Senator Velappan Velappan was selected to represent the Staff Senate on the search committee for selecting the new AVC-HR. Senator Diana Anthony will serve as a back-up committee member.

2. Senator Velappan provided update on discussion held at the Staff Assembly Ashville meeting. He stated GA-HR is attempting to implement an overtime pay. Anyone earning under $50.4K will be eligible to earn overtime pay and anyone over this salary amount will earn compensatory time. The intent is to begin implementation in April 2016.

3. President Flanigan stated anyone who wishes to attend the chairs video-teleconference meeting is welcome to do so. The meetings are held the 3rd Fridays every month from 10:00am until 12:00pm.

4. NC A&T received the Erskine Bowles award this year. Coach Lawrence Kershaw who was selected as FSU Employee of the Year represented FSU. Also, Ella Smith from the library was awarded a scholarship from the J.B. Royster Scholarship.

5. The new performance appraisal review process will be effective for the 2015-2016 academic year. The new format changes from a 5 point scale to a 3 point scale.

6. Senator Riddick stated the Staff Senate needs to begin developing a relationship with the Faculty Senate and the student’s governance.

7. Senator Riddick informed a reception and presentation will be held October 11 honoring President Ross. Each staff senator is invited and all should plan on attending to represent FSU.

8. Mr. James Griffin, a delegate from NC A&T, proposed an event for all senators from the 17 schools to get together in the spring.

9. President Flanigan stated we will not be able to use the funds in the budget if we plan on having the ice cream social during Staff Appreciation week. Food cannot be purchased with these funds.

10. The two fundraisers the Staff Senate will hold this year are the poinsettia sale and Mr. & Ms. Staff.

11. President Flanigan stated in regards to community service, Nichole Young will contact the principal of the school for the adopt-a-school project. She will also contact Senator Cassandra Jenkins in regards to assisting the homeless in November as we did last year.

Selection of Committees – Senator Xenia Lopez distributed sheets with the different committees for all to select the ones they wish to serve on for 2015-2016.
New Business –

1. Grant/Scholarship Update – Senator Lopez provided update. A decision will need to be made if a scholarship or a grant will be offered to the staff. Only 11 senators voted on either option. Senator Lopez will resend the two options for senators who did not vote.

2. Senator Riddick mentioned that the Staff Assembly Scholarship (J.B. Royster Scholarship) will be open for applications for the spring semester. He also stated the need to begin working on sponsorships for the golf tournament.

3. Senator Cindy Wetherwax reported the director for emergency management is leaving. Also, there are many employees filing grievances. Staff needs to know what are the policies and their rights are.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:38.

Xenia López
Secretary, Staff Senate