

ASU Staff Senate Meeting

Date	May 15, 2003
Place	Dean B. Ellis Library, Board Room, 8 th Floor
Start Time	9 a.m.
End Time	10:50 a.m.

Persons Attending

Senators

Barnhill, Carol	Creemeens, Laura	Holt, Toni	Neldon, Don
Bittle, Tony	Douglas, Carolyn	Jackson, Philip	Nelson, Vic
Bramlett, Sandra	Ford, Ann	Lee, Sharon	Poynter, Elaine
Clark, Mark	Freeman, Tami	McCay, Judy	Reece, Carolyn
Coker, Barbara	Gulley, Jeff	McMillin, Donna	Rippy, Mike

Absent

Cambron, Chris
Beth Ephlin (graduated)
Margie Vaughn

Proxies

Rhonda Keith for Victor Hill

Guests

Greg Thornburg

Agenda

1	Call to order The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by President Jackson.
2	Approval of minutes Minutes of the April 17 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
3	Treasurer's report Treasurer Douglas distributed copies of account expenditure and balances as of May 15. Balances in the Staff Senate accounts were: Staff Senate Discretionary Account - \$2,442.10 Staff Senate ASU Account - \$1,965.64 Santa's Tribe Discretionary Account - \$8,229.78 Santa's Tribe ASU Account - \$1,074.84 A detailed list of expenditures is available from the Treasurer, Carolyn Douglas (cdouglas@astate.edu).
4	Employee suggestion report No discussion on this agenda item.

5	<p>Policy recommendations – Financial Aid & Scholarships Committee</p> <p>Greg Thornburg, Director of Financial Aid explained a proposal that will be presented as a Shared Governance item in the near future, one that will required action by the Staff Senate. Mr. Thornburg provided information on a revised system for awarding state funded scholarships. Highlights of the proposed system will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Takes into account ACT scores and high school GPA ○ Requires recipients to complete 30 credit hours per year during fall and spring semesters (freshmen have the first summer term to complete 30 hours) ○ Pays for 15 credit hours per semester (additional hours must be paid for by the student) <p>Benefits for the university and for students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase in academic integrity ○ Increase length of time students stay on scholarship ○ Extend scholarships to out-of-state students ○ Help control scholarship budget ○ Puts ASU on a more level playing field with other Arkansas schools <p>Those who wish to receive a copy of the complete proposal may contact Greg Thornburg at gthorn@astate.edu.</p>
6	<p>Election of new officers</p> <p>Nominations were accepted for the offices of Staff Senate president, vice president, treasurer and secretary for 2003-2004.</p> <p>Nominees for president: Tami Freeman and Judy McCay Vote: McCay – 10, Freeman – 9</p> <p>Nominees for vice president: Tami Freeman and Laura Cremeens Vote: Freeman – 12, Cremeens – 8</p> <p>Nominees for secretary: Vic Nelson Vote: Unanimous</p> <p>Nominees for treasurer: Carolyn Reece Vote: Unanimous</p> <p>New officers for 2003-2004 are Judy McCay, president, Tami Freeman, vice-president, Vic Nelson, secretary, Carolyn Reece, treasurer. Officers will assume duty at next month's meeting.</p> <p>Some senators expressed concern that they were unfamiliar with those nominated for office. It was suggested that nominations take place one month in advance of the election to allow time to learn more about nominees. President Jackson said that would require a change in the bylaws and recommended the senate take up the matter in the near future.</p>
7	<p>Committee updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not all staff slots on Shared Governance committees have been filled. A campus wide email will be sent to request volunteers or nominees. ○ There was debate on whether all the proceeds from the upcoming silent auction and bake sale should go to the Santa's Tribe or Staff Senate discretionary account. Some favored establishing a scholarship account with part of the Staff Senate discretionary account and thought part of the proceeds should go there. A motion was made and seconded to direct silent auction proceeds to Santa's Tribe and bake sale proceeds to Staff Senate. The motion was tabled for further discussion.
8	<p>New business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rhonda Keith presented an idea to request an employee discount on dorm rooms for dependents. She and others have contacted the Residence Life office and received favorable comments about the idea. Students would be on a stand-by list to receive a room when residence life determines rooms will be vacant for the semester. Since the university will pay infrastructure costs on the room whether or not it is vacant, it would make money if an employee's son or daughter could live there, even if at a discounted rate. A proposal will be drafted and presented to the Fringe Benefits Committee. ○ Mike Rippy presented a requested on behalf of graduate and undergraduate students for Staff Senate to support them in opposing the proposed tuition increase. President Jackson said comments regarding tuition should be directed to the Board of Trustees.
8	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. Next meeting will be Thursday, June 19 in the Dean B. Ellis Library Board Room.</p>

Notes

- 1 | Next meeting June 19, 2003, 9 a.m., Dean B. Ellis Library, Board Room, 8th Floor