

*Minot State University  
Staff Senate Meeting  
November 16, 2004  
9 am Jones Room*

**Members Present:** Judy Bacon, Caren Barnett, Linda Benson, Chad Carr, Sheldon Dokken, Cathy Horvath, Pat Hrichena, Scott Peterson, Sherie Saltveit, Audrey Sidener, Kim Schwinler, Sherry Wheeling, Kim Witt, and Gary Wolf. Dr. David Fuller, ex-officio.

**Members Absent:** Billy Boyeff, Karen Brunner-Wright, Donna Harvey, Tim Healy, Bill Klimpel, Laurie Weber and Kim Withus. Wes Matthews and Kim Thompson, ex-officio.

**Officers' Reports:** Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Judy reported that there is currently \$750.51 in the Staff Senate account, with \$3869.25 being sent to the Bloms family as proceeds from the benefit raffle.

Dr. Fuller updated everyone on the decision from the State Board of Higher Education concerning the addition of an ACT writing exam, noting that each institution will have their own discretion concerning the qualifications of the exam.

Everyone was informed of the proposal from VCSC to change their mission to a Masters 1 program, allowing them to offer an MED with a focus on technology.

Dr. Fuller reported that there will be no Christmas tree lighting this year, due to low attendance in past years, but that the President's Holiday Gala will be held December 14, during the week of finals, and will be extended with offices being encouraged to be closed for at least an hour in order for everyone to attend.

Staff Senate members were informed that the Administrative Council at MSU has decided to support a 50% tuition waiver for spouses and dependents of faculty and staff, effective fall of 2005.

Dr. Fuller suggested that a fall picnic be held for faculty and staff. Linda reported that she has contacted ND Job Corps and it is hoped that they would be interested in again preparing the food for such an event with funds coming from various organizations on campus.

**Old Business:** Gary reported that NDUS Staff Senate will be holding a December 15 meeting at 2pm in Admin. 158, IVN studio.

Caren reported that the Tobacco Free committee had met and that surveys will be coming out in everyone's paychecks before the end of the year. Members of the student organization are checking with other campuses as to their policies concerning the smoking issue.

Linda reported that there didn't seem to be enough interest in reprinting the MSU cookbooks to warrant placing an order for a reprinting with a minimum of 100 books needed to reorder. It was suggested that new recipes could be added to the old cookbook for reprints – no action taken.

Judges for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Office Decorating Contest from Staff Senate will be Scott Peterson, Pat Hrichena, Gary Wolf and Wes Matthews. It is hoped that Dr. Fuller and Dr. Jenkins will also serve as judges.

In regards to holding an event during a basketball game, Audrey moved and Gary seconded that Staff Senate put our efforts towards helping with the Fall Picnic. Motion carried.

**New Business:** Kim Witt moved and Scott seconded that the scholarship committee contact the Financial Aid office to find out the amount of interest available for scholarships this year. Carried.

Kim moved and Sheldon seconded to look into a combined effort in regards to helping with the Fall Picnic.

Gary informed everyone that there he is working with the Professional Development Committee on plans for an informative session on methamphetamine for faculty and staff at MSU.

With no further business, Audrey moved and Sheldon seconded to adjourn at 9:30 am.