

**Minot State University
Staff Senate Minutes
Tuesday, February 19, 2008
9:00 a.m. – Westlie Room**

Members Present: Chad Carr, Shan Haarsager, Donna Just, Tawnya Bernsdorf, Brenda Anderson, Brenda Roedocker, Kathy Nelson, Rich Berg, Cheryl Rystedt, Judy Bacon, and Linda Benson.

Members Absent: Thomas Lipsey, Scott Peterson, Toni Schwartz, Barb Johnson, Laurel Hyatt, Amy Woodbeck, Libby Claerbout, Lilah Diederich, Ann Rivera and Chad Fenner.

Ex Officio Members and Visitors Present: Cheryl Nilsen, Wes Matthews, and Dr. David Fuller.

Call to Order: President Chad Carr called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of January 15th was made by Brenda Anderson and seconded by Donna Just. Motion carried.

Officer's Reports: There was no Treasurer's report due to the absence of Toni Schwartz.

President Carr thanked Donna Just, vice president of Staff Senate, for filling in for him while he was gone.

Dr. Fuller: Dr. Fuller reported that he will be going to the State Board of Higher Education meeting in Mayville where much of the discussion will center on budget priorities and issues with salaries at the top of the list on all NDUS campuses. Dr. Fuller stated that he is very pleased with the work of the Compensation Task Force here on campus.

Dr. Fuller encouraged the Staff Senate to read his white paper on Shared Governance that was sent by e-mail to members of the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Government Association, and the University Cabinet on February 19th. The paper is a good opportunity to see how all campus groups contribute to governance on the campus. Dr. Fuller will visit with Staff Senate after they have had an opportunity to read the paper. He wants to hear how Staff Senate sees itself in terms of decision making on campus.

Dr. Fuller touched on the coverage by the Minot Daily News on open forums which were recently held on campus. Dr. Fuller stated he felt the article gave the impression that MSU was not doing well financially, but that is not the case. Dr. Fuller stated that we are one of the healthiest campuses financially. He stated that we have to be wise about how we budget ourselves and our business. Dr. Fuller said that the university is moving ahead with some very exciting expectations for our school.

Visitor Comments:

Wes Matthews advised that Red Cross training will take place March 3-7 and there are still a few slots left. You need to register online.

Wes stated that the Compensation Task Force has been meeting. There have not been a lot of changes made to the staff model at this point.

Cheryl Nilsen, Faculty Senate representative, stated that doing contracts between faculty and students to deal with incompletes is currently being looked at. Faculty senate is in the planning stages for a legislative visit to the campus on April 11. Cheryl indicated legislators may also be interested in shadowing staff members that day along with faculty. Staff should contact Cheryl Nilsen, Eric Furuseth, or Tom Seymour if this is something they would be interested in. Faculty members are preparing for the

HLC visit; steering committee members are meeting with each of the departments; the HLC Self-Study report is on the web. It was stated that maybe a member of the steering committee should attend a Staff Senate meeting prior to the HLC visit.

Old Business:

President Carr reported that the Staff Senate banner has been received.

President Carr reminded senate members that the HLC committee will be on campus the end of March and encouraged everyone to read the Self-Study report which is on the web. A discussion of the visit will be held at the March meeting.

New Business:

MSU at the Zoo: Donna Just reported that she had attended the University Cabinet meeting and that Dr. Fuller had asked if the Staff Senate would organize the MSU at the Zoo event again next year. Members stated that this is a positive event; Chartwells catering really helped; the fact that we were given a budget alleviated a lot of concerns (budget was \$1500). Motion by Rich Berg and seconded by Linda Benson to support the MSU at the Zoo event again next year if all budget issues remain the same as they were this year. Unanimous support in favor of the motion.

ITAC-IT Planning Project: President Carr stated that ideas are needed for technology wishes on campus. Some ideas were updating the campus to be sure everything is wireless; more tech. surveillance on campus i.e. parking lots and remote areas; and updating distance learning capabilities.

Shared Recruitment: President Carr reported that President Fuller is involved in a committee working to develop a proposal describing a shared recruitment initiative to seek legislative support. He is asking for ideas on how universities can work together to recruit students. Several ideas that came forth from senate members included a centralized recruiting day where students could come and see what all the colleges had to offer and possibly a contracted consultant who would advise on what North Dakota can do for you as a student. Ideas on this issue should be given to President Carr so that they can be shared at the University Cabinet meeting on February 27th.

Staff Survey Committee: President Carr would like to organize a Staff Survey Committee. President Carr stated that it is important to get opinions from all of the staff. President Carr stated that he will help on this committee and Rich Berg also volunteered to help. Anyone else who is interested in serving on this committee should send President Carr an e-mail and let him know that you are interested. President Carr would like to have 3-4 people to work on this committee.

Motion by Rich Berg to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m. Next meeting is scheduled for March 18th in the Jones Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Shanette Haarsager
Acting Secretary

All Staff are invited and encouraged to attend all Staff Senate meetings.