UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE
October 2, 2014
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the Staff Senate was called to order on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 9:05 a.m. in the Willow Room, Morris University Center by John Caupert, president.

Present: Bartholomew, Caupert, Cobetto, Dain, Dickey, Dusenbery, Gilmore, Hunter, Lesicko, Mumphard, Ormesher, Welter, Candela, Langston; Panel: Herbeck, Trucks; Recording Secretary: Kruse

Excused: Cooper, Fricke, Hamil, Kershaw

Absent: Connoyer

Guests: Rachel Stack, John Charles, Keith Becherer, Jan Caban, Susan Caban, Nicholas Caban, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Smith, Steve Desse and Jack Desse

Guest Speaker and Scholarship presentation: John Caupert introduced Nicholas Caban, son of Susan (Registrar) and Jan (Facilities) Caban and Jack Desse (grandson of retiree Gary Smith (School of Dental Medicine) who were each awarded a 2014 Fall Scholarship of $1000.00. John Caupert introduced Rachel Stack, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and turned the floor to her for the Staff Senate Scholarship Presentation. Nicholas is studying electrical engineering and Jack is a pre dental student. Photos of awardees and families were taken with Rachel Stack, Staff Senate president, Scholarship Committee Chair and Selection committee member. An article with photo will be included in the upcoming newsletter.

John Caupert had approval to change the order of the agenda for the convenience of the guest speakers. John Caupert began introductions around the table.

Rachel Stack gave a brief presentation of what is happening now in the Foundation and thanked Keith Becherer for serving on the search committee that selected her for the position. Rachel reported one of the changes since she came aboard is now all officers in the units report to Foundations causing more efficiency. Dentistry is at 98.5% of their goal. Total goal of the current campaign is $3.5 million. The largest gift to the campaign at this time is $300,000.00 (Engineering). Rachel thanked everyone who is involved behind the scenes at the campus. A question was asked how retirees can get involved. Rachel said Steve Hansen is working on that at this time and that is one of the target areas. John Caupert commented that donations are vital to the NCERC. There was a question about gifts of equipment and depreciation. Rachel will follow up with the Provost so that departments know what to do when they are offered equipment donations because they need to go through Foundations and not directly to departments. There was a question about the telethon that the Staff Senate had requested help from Foundations a few years. Rachel suggested sending her a contact person and she will look into it. A question was asked for information about alumni. Rachel said that the Foundation is looking of other ways to reach younger alums. A question was asked about interaction of Foundation with current students. Rachel attends events and talks to students. The Foundation uses students in their building.
Rachel reminded everyone to visit ‘The Gardens’ on October 12 for an event where they hope students will be in attendance as well as involved. John thanked Rachel and welcomed her to come back to a Senate meeting.

**Guest Speaker:** John Caupert introduced John Charles, SIU President Government Liaison. Topics to cover are: elections do have consequences and how can Staff Senate be involved and be in compliance ethically. John Charles has an office conveniently located across from the State Capitol in Springfield. John Charles gave a brief summary of his duties representing SIU in the capitol followed by question and answers. He has been in his position for fourteen (14) months. Sometimes he will go to Springfield for funds such as the School of Pharmacy and the Simmons Cancer Center. Makes sure all the universities are represented in the capitol. John Charles encouraged everyone to vote and to take the ethics test.

Q. Is there anything happening in addition to the pension issue?

A. John Charles mentioned the state tax increase and if it doesn’t get approved what would happen.

Q. Has there been any word about a ‘super majority’ in both houses after election?

A. John Charles said it remains to be seen.

Q. Can employees put huge campaign signs in their car windows and park in university parking lots?

A. With some discussion, it was determined that the car is private property and that the university cannot stop it from happening. John Charles will follow up with John Caupert after consulting with his office.

Q. Can there be some communication throughout the University about Bills that affect the University in order to educate employees who are citizens of the region? Wouldn’t it be the responsibility of the Staff Senate to share this information? How can it be shared with the SIUE community?

A. John Charles will follow up with John Caupert after consulting with his office. His office is working on a way to have a link for information on Bills that may affect SIU.

Q. How do the name calling commercials really help the candidate?

A. John Charles says it brings in more votes.

Q. How do the legislators prioritize the universities amongst other priorities?

A. John Charles said they are just as important as prisons that they represent and that’s doing everything they can to help the one they represent.

John Caupert expressed his appreciation to John for attending
Announcements

John Caupert read the announcements on the agenda and added two announcements from the Chancellor’s Office:

Two dates are available for the Chancellor’s reception for the Staff Senate; Tuesday, October 28 or Wednesday, October 29. It was decided that Tuesday the 28th would be a better scheduling choice and the Governance secretary will let Karen Kaufman know.

The Chancellor’s Office will no longer host a community holiday open house which in the past was on a Sunday in Birger Hall. It will be combined with the Faculty, Staff and Retiree Holiday Party which will be December 4th from 3:00 – 6:00.

John Caupert called a ten minute break at 10:10 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:20 a.m.

Consideration of Minutes: The September 4, 2014 minutes were approved as submitted (Dusenbery/Bartholomew).

Action

Ratification of Dana Dain as Admin/Prof represented Senator was unanimously approved.

Ratification of Admin/Prof unrepresented Panel Member Courtney Breckenridge was unanimously approved.

The University Staff Senate Constitution proposed revisions/amendments: Michelle Welter explained the one revision of the addition of the Fundraising Chair as Ex officio member of the Executive Committee. It was noted that quorum was established. Todd Bartholomew made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to the Constitution with a second from Cindy Cobetto. The motion was approved unanimously.

The University Staff Senate By-Laws proposed revisions/amendments: Michelle Welter presented changes to the By-Laws, section by section. After a thorough review of minor and substantial proposed revisions:

- Article I, Section 5, The Staff Senate will conduct elections on the first second Wednesday in July April.
- Article I, Section 6, An Election Committee will be appointed by the President of the Staff Senate no later than the January November meeting of each year. Candidates for election to the Staff Senate or panels are ineligible to serve on the Election Committee.

And the addition of an omission of the Fundraising Chair in Article VI, Section 1. in order to be consistent with the Constitution Article IV, Section 2 proposed revision:
Article VI, Section1. The Executive Committee will consist of the President, Vice President (President-Elect), the Secretary, Treasurer the Past-President, and the Chairperson of each panel, all of whom have full voting privileges at the Executive Committee meetings. The Fundraising Chair and UPBC representatives will also serve on the Executive Committee as non-voting members.

Bill Dusenbery made a motion to accept the proposed revisions with a second from Tom Dickey. The motion was approved unanimously. The proposed revisions of the Constitution and By-Laws will be forwarded to the Chancellor for approval.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Reports

Treasurer: Tami Kershaw submitted a handout of the current balances as of August 31, 2014 of the Staff Senate Scholarship Fund. It is filed with the minutes.

Standing Committees

Scholarship and Fundraising Committee: Donna Lesicko, reported that the Employee Banquet was a success, but would have liked to see more Staff Senate involvement. Much of the committee is comprised of people who are not Staff Senate members. There was a discussion about the event. Donna reported that the proceeds of $2,499.63 will go to the Staff Senate Scholarship Fund. It was decided that John Caupert would personally apologize for the comedian’s remarks that were not appropriate for the audience. Donna recognized the committee (especially those who are not members of the Senate) for their hard work and time put into the preparations including the work the evening of the event; Pat Rauch, Jamie Fester, Leasa Ferry, Tami Kershaw, Becky Cooper and Anne Hunter. John Caupert was the emcee for the evening and did a wonderful job. Donna also reported that there is a Facebook page for the SIUE Employee Banquet.

Goals Committee: Keith Becherer submitted a report and is filed with the minutes. In the report he encouraged the Staff Senate to get involved with the Make a Difference Day on October 25. It would be easy to step up and volunteer since it was already organized. Michelle Welter will send a sign-up sheet while Cindy Cobetto will take on the lead for anyone who wants to get involved.

Other

President: Keith Becherer reported that Summer Murphy is the new SURS. John would like to have a Facebook page for the Staff Senate. Anne Hunter will take on this task since she has already set up others after checking with the Marketing and Communications Office.

Staff Senate Orientation/Training: Michelle Welter reported there is no training today.
**Policy Review Committee:** Greg Herbeck provided a new revised copy of the Conflict of Interest and Commitment policy. There was a discussion about some possible changes before it is finalized. There was a motion to set up an ad hoc committee of three (3) members in addition to Greg Herbeck and Cindy Cobetto (Policy Review Committee members), to be able to review with scrutiny all the new language from the Senate’s suggestions (Langston/Dain). The motion was approved. Members who volunteered were Donna Lesicko, Dana Dain and Shrylene Langston. They met immediately following the meeting and will get a report to the Staff Senate Executive Committee meeting on October 16, 2014.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m. (Dusenbery/Dain).

*Approved as submitted November 6, 2014 by the Staff Senate*

*Vicki Kruse/University Governance*
Panel/Committee Name: Goals Committee

Panel/Committee Chairperson: Keith Becherer

Panel/Committee Membership (alphabetical order, please, Indicate whether faculty, staff or student):

1) Keith Becherer
2) 
3) 
4) 
5) 
6) 
7) 
8) 
9) 
10) 

Panel/Committee Charge:

Provide yearly goals for the Staff Senate.

Person submitting report: Keith Becherer

Extension: x3242

Please use this sheet for your report. Use back if necessary. Return to University Governance Office (Box 1252 or vkruse@siue.edu) as soon as the report is complete.

REPORT
(Synopsis of matters/items considered and actions taken)

-October 2, 2014 meeting; Goals updates will be more on a quarterly basis than monthly basis given the nature of yearly goals.
-Would encourage the Senate to take advantage of the National Service Day/SIUE Service project on Saturday, October 25th as this is a great opportunity to make a positive impact. It also helps the Senate work towards achieving one of the stated goals for 2014-15.
-This concludes my report. KB
### Panel/Committee Name: Fundraising Committee

**Panel/Committee Chairperson:** Donna Lesicko

**Panel/Committee Membership** (alphabetical order, please, Indicate whether faculty, staff or student):

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**Panel/Committee Charge:** Fundraise for the Staff Senate Scholarship

**Person submitting report:** Donna Lesicko  
**Extension:** 3308

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**REPORT**

(Synopsis of matters/items considered and actions taken)

I will discuss the Employee Banquet:

- Pay at the door/no shows
- How many attended
- Breakdown or cost
- Comments from Banquet Committee members
- Ideas mentioned for next banquet
- Proceeds of raffle tickets
- Proceeds of barrel of booze
- Staff Senate participation