The regular meeting of the Staff Senate Executive Committee was called to order on November 21, 2013, at 9:02 a.m. in the International Room Morris University Center by Michelle Welter, President.

Present: Bartholomew, Becherer, Cobetto, Hamil, Welter, Caupert

Excused: Dusenbery

Consideration of the Minutes: The October 17, 2013 minutes were approved as submitted.

New Business

Sick Leave Bank: Michelle Welter is compiling information from other Universities for the December 5, 2013 Staff Senate meeting. The University of Illinois has a sick leave bank set up for their employees. Their bank is set up with different ways to qualify.

Campus Wi-Fi: Michelle will meet with Jennifer Vandever today at 11:00 a.m.

Presidential Search Committee: John Caupert, Staff Senate representative reported that he is honored to serve on the committee. There are 26 people on the committee. John is impressed with General Thomas's choice in Donna Mannering as Chair. There are over 75 applicants so far. More information on progress of the search will be provided at the December 12 Board of Trustees meeting. John directed people to the Search web site where nominations can be made.

There was a discussion about the Open Forum and the set up was intimidating to people. Keith Becherer gave his comments including his appreciation for the opportunity and for John Caupert’s service on the search committee. There was a discussion. John will continue to keep the Senate updated.

Fundraising Committee

Employee Banquet: The committee has narrowed the date to either April 3 or April 10, 2014. Michelle will see if there are any student groups or entertainment. There was a discussion about ideas of

December Meeting

Guest Speakers: Susan Yager, President of Faculty Senate and Alexa Hillery, President of Student Senate will address the Senate with business their senates are working on.

Agenda Items: If anyone would like something on the agenda, please contact Michelle. Michelle will add Joseph Pearson to the agenda regarding commuter meal cards. There was a discussion.

Todd Bartholomew requested to redo the old Panel Report forms for the Chairs.
There was a discussion of vacancies on the Senate and Panels. John Caupert asked how to help someone get on the Senate. The website has links to forms for a candidate to fill out: Petition for Candidacy, Statement of Candidacy and Statement of Qualifications.

Since there was no Treasurers Report on the November agenda, it will be on the December agenda. Cindy Cobetto will have the report ready for the December meeting. Cindy would like a form for payroll deduction.

Open for discussion

Employee Appreciation Event: April 9 from 11:00 to 1:00. It will be held on the Quad with the Meridian Ballroom as back-up. The committee will be meeting.

Faculty Staff Holiday Reception to be an announcement on the December agenda

December 9, 2013 will be the Ribbon Cutting at the new Multidisciplinary lab at the School of Dental Medicine, Alton.

Old Business

Lobby Day 2014: No new information.

Review of Constitution, By-laws and Operating Papers: There was a discussion on the membership qualifications Section but no action. Michelle suggested for everyone to take a look at the constitution and by-laws and bring notes to the December Executive meeting. At that time, go page by page and each person give their suggestions. Governance secretary will send an electronic copy to the executive committee.

Open for discussion

UPBC: Keith Becherer reported that the Council will listen to Nobbe Emmanuel and Lora Miles give a presentation for the Student Affairs budget. There is a new fees proposal for a Gardens fee. Other topics discussed in the recent meetings: priorities, travel abroad, position in career services, School of Engineering, case load persons of concerns, discussion of role of UPBC as advisory to Chancellor, cuts may prevent the budget to allow funds for ‘wish lists’, fees presented, ITS fee, cash carry over requests more, textbook services, best use of fee, efficiency comments, efficiency study will focus on IT, ICA goes up 14%. The Provost will present her ‘wish list’ at the next meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m. (Hamil).

Approved as submitted January 16, 2014 by the Staff Senate Executive Committee
Vicki Kruse/University Governance