UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Magnolia Room, Morris University Center
February 21, 2018 – 9:00am
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate Executive Board was called to order at 9:00am on Thursday, February 21, 2019 in the Magnolia Room of the Morris University Center by President-Elect Toberman.

Present: Gretchen Fricke, Ian Toberman, Collin Van Meter, Melanie Schoenborn, Cindy Cobetto, Anne Hunter (ex officio)
Excused: Angie White, Mark Ferrell
Absent: Carolyn Jason
Guests: Seran Aktuna, Jamie Ball, Lakesha Butler, Terra Cole Brown, Nicole Klein, Tony Langendorf, Bob Vanzo

GUESTS:
Seran Aktuna and Nicole Klein were invited to speak about the Faculty Ombuds, and they provided an overview of program. The Faculty Ombuds website contains information about the policies that govern them as well as the guidelines from the national Ombuds program. Reports about the Ombuds program at SIUE can be found on the website as well, which includes the number of people who contact the office. They act as a neutral resource for faculty who have sensitive questions or encounter issues. Confidentiality is maintained, and they are careful not to give enough information to identify those who utilize the service. The floor was then opened to questions.

In terms of what Ombuds cannot do, it is expected to be a confidential resource and not a reporting office, however legal council is adamant that sexual harassment is reported. They inform that they are required to report per institutional policy, and they will guide to appropriate resources.

The Ombuds and Faculty Association are complementary to each other in regard to interpersonal conflicts, and they have had conversations with the Association about how they fit in. The Ombuds continues to have a role, and they do not ask if someone is represented.

The office is located in Rendleman, but there have been no concerns over confidentiality. They can meet anywhere on or off campus, however the office is located directly across from Financial Aid. Other Universities with larger offices have Ombuds programs that include students and staff.

Additional questions covered how the Ombuds are selected, how it affects their teaching schedule, how reports are created. There was also discussion on how staff could be included in the existing Ombuds program.

Bob Vanzo and Tony Langendorf were also guests at the meeting, invited to speak about parking and the upcoming changes to Lot A. They provided a map of what the changes will look like and are attached.
They also provided other parking updates. Some of the green space near the Vadalabene Center will be converted to green lot parking with defined curbs; there will still be pay spaces available. The Korte lot is in the process of being repaved.

The decision to install a roundabout was a combination of traffic flow and pedestrian safety. The current T-intersection is one of the busiest and potentially dangerous intersections on campus. The redesign keeps people traveling to Lot A or the campus proper from interacting with vehicles until further down in a less busy area. They will be designing the landscaping to keep people on the proper pathways, and traffic flow should be much better. The roundabout will be a test as there are four spots on campus that could benefit from roundabouts. The center of the roundabout will have elaborate landscaping as Lot A is the most important permit lot at the University. They are putting in conduit for future security cameras, however there are none being added in this project and is simply planning for future development.

The first half of the project will take place over the Summer term, and people will be sharing the construction entrance. The roundabout will be built and the west part of Lot A will be completed, and then they will do the eastern portion of Lot A. They cannot start until after Commencement so they have a very tight window for completion as the entire project must be done by August 9, 2019.

The amount of parking will not change, including motorcycle and pay spaces. There will be spots for SIUE vehicles as well. Overall there will be a slight increase in the amount of parking. This will also be the first lot to have an electrical vehicle charging slot, and they are contracting with ChargePoint.

The floor was opened to questions. There was a question on whether motorcycles were allowed in metered spaces, and their website will be clarified to communicate that they are allowed in these spaces. The Lovejoy Library loading dock will be open for the entirety of the project. Athletics will be able to use the new area by the Vadalabene Center as premiere parking for games.

The number of student Green Lot tags has remained stable over the last 5 years, and it has been limited for a while due to construction. There has been a push to open up parking spots as free-for-all, but they are not going to do that as the existing system is established.

There was a question on whether bringing the Korte lot into the paved lot structure would increase tag prices, however Vanzo stated that they are not seeing an increase more than what they normally would do. The Korte lot is not one that staff will use, and it was expressed that the costs should not be shared by staff members because of that. The lot will generate revenue, however it is currently unclear on how much and if it would be enough to offset any potential increases. It was shared that Red Lot tags have been going up at a higher percentage now that they have gone to a flat increase; before that Green Lot tags were going up significantly more than Red Lot.

There was a discussion on the parking machines and issues people have had with them. There are some issues with the older machines, and they will be replacing those. They are exploring a suggestion to put machines inside the MUC. The machines are solar powered so they cannot put shelters over them, but they are also going to investigate switching it to electric. The machines will not take more than $18 as a
Parking Services does not have a petty cash account, so they are unable to do refunds. They can see when a machine malfunctions, and they can credit an account. 70% of transactions are credit cards or via the Whoosh app.

There are plans to expand the Korte lot, but it will be funded through private money. There was a question and discussion about water runoff and sustainability options for parking lots. “Green” parking lots require a significant amount of maintenance and cannot be salted, however they are using a green process. There will be retention ponds and basins to make up for the change from gravel, and everything that is there now will be reused.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
The minutes for the December 20, 2018 and January 17, 2019 meetings were approved as written.

**REPORTS:**
There were no reports.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
The discussion on committee operating guidelines and constituency representation was postponed.

Cindy Cobetto was elected as the Administrative Staff Represented Constituency Representative.

There have been some issues getting the election announcement in the e-Today, however it is already up on the electronic boards across campus.

**NEW BUSINESS:**
Terra Brown was invited to attend the Ombuds discussion as a representative from the Black Faculty and Staff Association. The BFSA does have an interest in expanding the Ombuds with a goal of ensuring that African American staff have an avenue for their issues to be addressed. There is misinformation coming out when people try to find out the process for addressing issues such as being told not to go to Human Resources and then being told by Human Resources that the person should have come to them. There is a desire to have cooperation as opposed to competition.

Jamie Ball was also invited to attend the Ombuds discussion with an interest in informal resolutions. Ball stated that she often serves as a quasi Ombuds as people find their way into her office, but the nature of their problem is not something that can be addressed by a policy under her purview. She does not have a formal approach that she can impose, however she does offer informal assistance when it comes up.

There was consensus to move forward with pursuing a staff Ombuds as there are twice as many staff as faculty, and it will require a proposal and budget to be put together. Human Resources does not want to deal with history, however many staff issues that come up do have a history. There is a need for staff to know they have a completely neutral avenue to resolve issues outside of Human Resources or a union. An ad hoc committee will be created in conjunction with the BFSA to work on a proposal.
There was a discussion on the dynamic between staff and faculty in the BFSA. There was also discussion on concerns for staff to be able to move into mid-management, particularly for women, as well as the lack of opportunity for staff to advance at all.

The last time a staff Ombuds was discussed there were concerns about potential legal issues and the idea of being put on notice as there is a requirement to respond. Key people will be brought in as resources to think through issues before it is presented. Staff feel there is no point in sharing concerns or issues as nothing will change, and there was a discussion on impacts based on gender and classification. Supervisors do not have the training they need, and there is not a visible process for bringing issues to light. The confidentiality aspect is important because staff are afraid to come forward with issues in addition to not knowing how to do it or where to go.

**ACTION ITEMS:**
There were no action items.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
The announcements were reviewed as written on the agenda.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**
Cobetto requested a discussion about people who want to be on a committee getting the time needed to participate. The Board of Trustees was briefly discussed, however it was decided to hold off on a larger discussion until at least after the next meeting on March 28.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**
The Governor has suggested more money for higher education, which is a positive move.

**ADJOURNMENT:**
The meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Submitted by Anne Hunter, University Governance
STAFF SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD
Magnolia Room, Morris University Center
February 21, 2019 – 9:00am
AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER
II. GUEST
   a. Seran Aktuna and Nicole Klein – Faculty Ombuds
   b. Bob Vanzo and Tony Langendorf – Lot A Changes
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   a. December 20, 2018
   b. January 17, 2019
IV. REPORTS AND UPDATES
V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   a. Committee Operating Guidelines
   b. Administrative Staff Represented Constituency Representative
   c. Constituency Representation
   d. Election Timeline
VI. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Ombuds Discussion
VII. ACTION ITEMS
VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   a. SIUE Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day – April 17, 2019
   b. Staff Senate Banquet – April 18, 2019
   c. Faculty Senate President Sorin Nastasia and Black Faculty & Staff Association
      President Lakesha Butler – April 18 SSEB Meeting
IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
X. PUBLIC COMMENT
XI. ADJOURNMENT

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 9:00am in the Magnolia Room, Morris University Center
Next regularly scheduled Staff Senate meeting will be Thursday, March 7 at 9:00am in the International Room, MUC.