

**October 24, 2013**

**Library 407, 10:00AM**

1. Call to Order
2. Executive Committee Reports
   1. President, Derek Rodriguez
      1. Faculty Senate has been discussing the Children’s Center
         1. We don’t have time at this meeting but if you have comments regarding the closure please email Staff Council
   2. Vice-President, Brian McDonald
      1. Several committees are still looking for volunteers; the sign-up sheets are on the table by the door; if you are able please volunteer
   3. Treasurer, Amanda Green
      1. Credit Union and Endowment balance remain the same
      2. Table at benefits fair went well
         1. 85 entries for door prizes
         2. Rose from TRAC won the Jazz CD and James McAllister from Foreign Languages won the glasses
   4. Recording Secretary, Carol Lunn
      1. Strategic Agenda Implementation Committee – Subgroup 10 Research
         1. Our group met and discussed way to increase research activity and remove barriers to managing awards
         2. The recommendations from all sub-committees will be incorporated into one document and distributed
         3. The main committee is due to meet again on October 31st and each sub-committee will report on their progress
   5. Corresponding Secretary, Charlann Kable
      1. Will post committees and members on website as soon as Brian sends the finalized listing
3. Committee Reports
   1. Q & A for Administration – Chair?
      * 1. Brian McDonald, Kendy Martinez and Irene Zigler
        2. Working with Help Desk to have box for anonymous submission of questions on Staff Council Website
           1. Hope to have on-line prior to next month’s meeting
   2. Events Committee – Chair: Harold Bauer
      1. Food Drive – the annual food drive is starting
         1. Mary Hicks was kind enough to make flyers again; they will be passed around and we are asking you mark the one you would like to use
         2. The boxes are small so we are going to have color posters to make the boxes easier to see
         3. We are again partnering with SGA and Faculty Senate; SGA can use social media to advertise
         4. Roy Robertson is kind enough to once again coordinate the boxes and will bring the donations to Second Harvest
      2. Spring Fling – Chair?
         1. March 13th; need encumber expenses before year end
   3. Awards Committee – Chair: Eliza Muscarello
      1. Staff appreciation award
      2. President’s medallion
      3. Scholarship
      4. In the past there has been low participation in submitting nominations and serving on committees
         1. We need to increase involvement
         2. There is a sign up sheet on the front table – we would love to have more volunteers
         3. We are reviewing criteria for awards, so you can make a difference
   4. Membership/Elections Committee – THERE ARE NO VOLUNTEERS
   5. *ad hoc* By-Laws Committee – Brian McDonald and Amanda Green are co-chairing
      1. Plan to get initial blessing from Staff Council in December on updated By-Laws then meet with HR and try to submit for final vote in February
4. New Business
   1. Staff Council Members Luncheon with President Fos
      1. Derek Rodriguez said Dr. Fos would like to have lunch with Staff Council and he is working on the plan
5. Strengths Quest
   1. Derek Rodriguez put to Vote – does Staff Council want to pay for a Purchase Order for members to take Strengths Quest at a cost of $9.99 we estimate it will cost less than $200 for all members
      1. Not approved - tabled because not enough votes
6. Staff Council Members attendance requirements
   1. Carol Lunn stated there were some individuals who missed the first 2 meetings and they were emailed warnings on October 15th that missing 3 consecutive meetings may result in loss of membership as per the Staff Council By-laws
   2. Question from audience – How do you become a member?
      1. Last year we discussed at meetings and emailed each EEO class that needed to add members and asked for volunteers – then we voted to add the members
      2. There were some EEO classes where there were no volunteers so we started contacting people and asking them to volunteer
      3. This is something the Membership/Elections Committee can work on but we need volunteers
   3. Question from audience – Where are the meetings? If they are on a regular schedule then it may be easier to recruit.
      1. The meetings for the rest of the year are posted on the website; unless there is a holiday the meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10 am in Library 407.
7. Second Harvest Holiday Food Drive
   1. Harold Bauer and Mary Hicks discussed – see events committee above
8. Old Business
9. Guest Speakers

Jill Barrilleaux, Benefits Manager, Human Resource Management

* There are door prizes left from the Benefits Fair, please help yourself
* Thanks to Staff Council for having a table at the Benefits Fair
* October is open enrollment for benefits; enrollment closes at 4 pm on October 31st
  + If you do nothing then you will keep the same enrollment, except for the Flexable Spending plans which require you to enroll every year
* HR’s homepage now links to HR Connection and lists services by HR; there is a tab for the health shop, questions to ask the doctor, etc.
  + The FAQ section is still being built
* Retirement seminars – will be offering over the next year; providers will come to UNO
* ObamaCare – the employer mandate was delayed but the individual mandate is scheduled for 1/1/14; if you do not have insurance you may have to pay a federal penalty
  + 300,000 individual policies from 1 carrier in Florida alone will be dropped on 1/1/14
  + Congress may change the individual mandate because of tax penalties, increased costs and problems with implementing but for now you need to play for 1/1/14

Mallory Moore, Assistant Director, Office of External Affairs

* Office has 3 staff members
  + Rachel Kincaid – Vice President
  + Crystal Ellerby – federal
  + Mallory Moore – local
    - Occasionally Dr. Fos receives requests to nominate UNO employees to local Boards
    - State law requires boards to send requests for nominations to local university presidents to get local experts and reduce cronyism in appointments
    - Mallory recruits suitable volunteers – currently available are positions with NOMA and Kenner
    - If you are interested in serving on one of these boards, or would be interested in serving at a later date please contact Mallory

1. Next Meeting – November 21, 2013
2. Door Prizes – must be present to win
   1. Amanda Green pulled 4 door prizes
      1. Shelita Gibbs, Mike Hill, Derek Rodriguez and Mary Hicks
3. Adjournment

Staff Council is dedicated to providing the best possible representation for the staff of the university. Our goal is to identify ways to support and enhance the lives of our valued

fellow staff. Staff Council welcomes input from the entire university community in

order to make the University of New Orleans the best place in the City of New Orleans

and the state of Louisiana to work and prosper.