



GENERAL BODY STAFF COUNCIL MEETING

February 19, 2009

Posner Hall, Classroom 151

Officers: Jennifer Cox, Chair; Joseph Pastorik, Vice-Chair; Audrey Portis, Treasurer; Lindie Droulia, Secretary; Wayne Oglesby, Past Chair

Attendees: Bailey-Day, M.; Becer, A.; Besselman, S.; Berry, S.; Brennan, P.; Boeltz J.; Campbell, K.; Connelly, A.; Connelly, A.; Conser, E.; Corletti, D.; Dadowski, G.; Ebel, L.; Erickson, L.; Gould, S.; Imbimbo, J.; Javorski, S.; Lambrou, K.; Lanyon, J.; Matthews, D.; Palko, K.; Panno, C.; Poprocky, V.; Price, B.; Rauf, A.; Stupka, M.; White, V.; Widich, L.; Wrobleski, M.

Michelle Porter (Guest)
Barbara Smith (Guest)

Call to Order

- Jennifer called the meeting to order and introduced the Officers.
- Approval of minutes

Treasurer's Report

- Expenses \$234.94 Balance ending \$9840.14

Housekeeping

- New Divisional Representatives: Luke Widich - University Contracts office and Kathy Ribarchak - Vice Provost for Education office. We are in the process of securing additional representatives to replace the current vacancies.
- President's Forum - March 23, 2009, in McConomy. Expecting attendance will be high. There will be a mailing that will go out individually to campus. Request for ushers & greeters-contact Monica Linn Gutowski. This event will be video-recorded and notes will be taken.
- Dolores Matthews - Dining advisory council. Will be traveling to Bucknell, NY & Pitt for taste testing food regarding the RFP for dining services and the finalists.

Improving communications with campus.

- Shams in Qatar has offered to start a facebook page for staff council
- We are hoping to decide how we can move forward; there was a discussion and concern about usage and professional representation.

Committee updates:

Tagline Contest

- Information about the tagline contest will be passed out in March. The Executive Committee will select the winner.

- Winner will be announced in April. There was a discussion about whether staff council members should be able to participate in the tagline contest. After a vote and a clear majority, staff council representatives (less the Executive Council) will be eligible to participate. The submissions will be reviewed by executive council without names attached to identify those who entered.

Officers Elections

- Nominations for officers were accepted at the February meeting and turned in at end of meeting. Joseph Pastorik provided an overview of the responsibilities of each officer.
- Vice Chair - serves as the next chair of council, partners with Qatar with a possible travel to Qatar, responsible for the elections committee and any vacant representative positions
- Treasurer - reports, accounting, oracle access, responsible for tartan card
- Secretary - executive council & general meeting notes, reserves rooms, orders food, orders videoconferencing for meetings, tracks attendance

Take Our Sons & Daughters to Work

- The event is the 3rd Thursday in April (16th). Audrey Portis provided an overview for the event—the morning is spent with parents, then lunch and presentation, in afternoon split into groups to attend boys and girls tracks, ages 9-15 - volunteers are requested. \$3.00 possible fee for lunch.

Benefits

- Still holding regarding information on the flex spending debit card. Barbara Smith has not heard back as to where we stand on this. HR is benchmarking maternity leave and short-term disability as to competitiveness with other universities.

Smoking policy Committee

- Went into effect January 1st. Choosing new smoking designated areas, approximately 30 on campus have been elected. A map has been created for smoking locations. Will roll out over the next month. There will be no fines issued until the fall. The intention is to educate regarding the new locations during spring and summer. The idea is to control the smoking locations more consistently. The intended outcome is to keep inner core of campus smoke free. Information will be placed in buildings highlighting the spaces, and receptacles will be moved to new locations.
- Concerns about weather, overhangs, and students traveling between classes were discussed.
- There is a smoking cessation program also available and that information will be made available.

Qatar update:

- No update this month from Qatar. No one attended.

Michelle Porter, Parking Services Manager

- Michelle talked about parking open enrollment - begins April 1st. Parking is looking at the budget trying to see where they can trim. Michelle does not know at this time what the rates might be. Parking Services is working with the card office for discounted infrequent parking on campus.

- Q: What affects the rate?
- A: The parking tax charged by City of Pittsburgh affects the rate. It is now 37.5% and will go down to 35% in 2010. Two garages are 24 hour a day security. Parking is required by the city to have them patrolled. Maintenance is also an expense. Paving, snow removal. Another 150 spaces will be available once the new Gates complex is open.
- Q. Why is there 24 hour patrolling?
- A: The garages are patrolled 24 hours, as it is part of the City ordinance that any public garage facility operating 24 hours per day must be patrolled once every ½ hour.
- Q. Ways in which Parking is exploring to raise other rates associated with the business opposed to raising parking rates and pushing the costs to our permit holders.
- Exploring the option to pay in the evening has been considered. Dr. Cohon likes our parking spaces to be available in the evenings and on weekends. Possibility of advocating to charge for rates in evening instead of passing along costs in parking increases.
- Q. Explored discount rates for car-pooling?
- A: There is a discount for car-pool. It is up to \$15 discount off the rate for a carpool with up to 4-people. Would be up to car poolers to work out the payment among them.
- Q: Morewood needs to be repaved, relined. Could the lines be thicker, or not so narrow?
- A: The estimate is in the process for renovations. The stacked parking in the back of the lot is why the lines are narrow. Maximizing spaces is important because it is one of the most popular lots.
- Q: If all of the spaces were angled in Morewood, it would be easier to get out of the lot. The lots do not get salted or plowed all the time.
- A: Different configurations are going to be looked at in the spring.
- Q: Slow down signs - close to the Cyert Center?
- A: Signs exist. We cannot write moving violations. Only issued by Carnegie Mellon Police.
- Q: PPG offices pay to park downtown
- A: The rates downtown will be affected by the parking garages downtown.
- Q: CIC garage? Congregation of people smoking on 4th floor space. Can it be controlled?
- A: New smoking policy should help.

New business

- None
- Motion and Second to Adjourn