Minot State University  
Staff Senate Minutes  
Tuesday, March 15, 2011  
9:00 A.M. – Jones Room


.Ex Officio Members and Visitors Present: Wes Matthews, Tom Seymour.

.Call to Order: President Linda Benson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

.Approval of Minutes: There were no objections to the minutes, so they were approved as written.

.Officer Reports: Mindy Rudnick gave the Treasurer’s Report.
- The Staff Senate General Fund had a cash balance of $48.85. The Kick-Off fund had a cash balance of $245.40. Current year expenses include $24.40 for copies, $700.00 for tent rental and 252.00 for water for the Kick-Off event.

.Area Reports:
.Update from Human Resources: Human Resource Director Wes Matthew informed the Senate that the Compensation Task Force’s recommendation for Fiscal Year 2012’s salary increases is final and will be going to President’s Staff on March 28th for final approval. Wes is planning on holding open forums to discuss the increases. The CTF is anticipating an average increase of 3%, with the inclusion of merit pay being paid out as a bonus.

.Committee Reports:
.Professional Development: Brenda Munson briefed the Senate on the minutes of the the Professional Development Committee. The committee is looking into running a Mystery Beaver Button event in June. They would include trivia questions on the website, and the committee is hoping to be able to give away prizes to the winners.

.Orientation Committee: Teresa Loftesnes presented Staff Senate with a proposal from the Orientation Committee. The committee proposed adding a tour and human resource consultation for new staff to the orientation process. The tours would be run twice a month and can be given by any staff member on campus. Teresa then made a motion that the Senate recommend allowing release time for employees to give tours to new incoming staff. Bill Klimpel second. The Senate voted. MC
Old Business:
North Dakota University System Staff Senate: House Bill 1213 allowing Staff Senate to have a non-voting seat on the State Board of Higher Education has passed the house and was on its way to the Senate.

New Business:
Emeritus Status for Staff: Faculty Senate has recently been looking into emeritus status for Professors who retire from Minot State. President Linda Benson has suggested looking into giving emeritus status to staff. There are no benefits to the status change except for the adding the distinction next to the person’s name. After little discussion, one Senator posed the question of what are we pursuing in trying to get the emeritus status for staff? Staff Senate showed little interest in achieving emeritus status for staff and there was no further discussion.

Staff Senate Elections: Staff Senate election discussion was tabled until the April meeting.

Other Business:
TRIO Presentations: The staff from the TRIO office will be at the April meeting to discuss the functions and services provided by their department.

Wellness Center: A few staff brought up the issue that the new Wellness Center can only be utilized by the students. Paul Brekke informed the Senate that there are about 30 to 40 staff and faculty that use the current facility. There was no further discussion on the issue.

Bill Klimpel made a motion to adjourn. Second by Vicki Troftgruben. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 19th, 2011 in the Jones Room.

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