

Staff Conference Minutes

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Dina's Place

DiGiorgio Campus Center

In attendance: Grant Scurry, Maria D'Agostino, Jackie Concodora, Niki Behr, Nicole Chisari, Pat Blankenship, Susan Sauvigne, Becky Best, Kelly McGinnis, Julia Fockler, Lisa Brody

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Grant Scurry.

Members acknowledged approval of the minutes.

President Dan Mahony talked about the state higher education budget. Winthrop received more money, but mandates equal more than that Winthrop received. Any vetoes to the budget probably won't be addressed. Enrollment is steady and is comparable to this time last year. It's early to tell, but numbers will probably reflect last year. The goal is to grow enrollment, he said, but it was not expected to grow this year, looking more at 2018-19. He mentioned a few agenda items for the June 23 Board of Trustees meeting.

He answered questions submitted to him. The first question asked if there had been any more thought put into a daycare on campus for children of students, faculty, and staff. He said three studies on this have been completed within the last 12 years. Seems to be cost-prohibitive, due to a few issues: actually securing a facility for the daycare; meeting the state's expectations; and having enough children enrolled to fill it. Tuition ends up being more than local daycares.

Another question mentioned an idea for faculty/staff morale. It involved talking to graduating seniors about any faculty/staff who had positively impacted them. The faculty/staff members would then receive a certificate with a quote from that student. Question wondered if Winthrop would look into this? He said yes, it's an idea to give to the faculty/staff events committee and that ideas are something that committee can start to look into.

The final question noted the increased salaries for new staff hires and asked where the additional money comes from. Mahony said he has asked the board for \$100k more in competitive compensation. However, he said people should note that of the new staff hires: 1-it's just the competitive nature of the game; new hires are still below CUPA standards, as are current staff; and 2-some of the jobs people are hired for are not "replacing" former jobs, but rather are new positions/rewritten entirely.

Campus Police Chief Frank Zebedis talked about WU Alert system. He is meeting with IT on July 6 to talk about eliminating the old panic buttons some offices have—it would change to a desktop panic button. He gave a rundown of the Clery Act, explaining the notification process for incidents on or near campus. Maria asked if the number of staff members with these panic buttons would increase. Zebedis explained offices like finance/business, admissions, etc., that have money on site and face potential escalated situations have the buttons. The list will be reexamined as changes come in. Zebedis also mentioned Winthrop's LiveSafe app.

Elections & Nominations- Winners of the new positions will be announced at the July meeting.

Media & Communications- The next edition of Staff Stuff will be in August.

Professional Development- Maria congratulated the committee on the successful June 13 professional development conference for staff. Chair Goldie Gildehaus said the next meeting is 10 a.m. on July 11.

Campus & Community Involvement- Pam Varraso shared that 1,527 pounds of food were collected in the food drive and given to Project Hope. The next CCIC meeting is Aug. 9 at 9 a.m. in 258 DIGs.

Recognition- The staff member of the month was Roberta Daniels from the Department of Mass Communication.

New staff members were announced:

Athletics	Tesia Harris
Athletics	Kevin Lynum
Athletics	Jena Ready
Finance and Business	Heather Savikas
Student Life	James Hooker
Athletics	Benjamin Abbott
Athletics	Gabriel Holguin
Athletics	Tobias Pinson
University College	JasmineHowze
College of Education	Deedee Cousar

Maria presented certificates of service to outgoing Staff Assembly members: Grant Scurry, Janell Stevens, Niki Behr, Barbara Emery, and Pat Blankenship.

There were no further questions or comments.

The next staff conference will be Tuesday, July 18, in Dina's Place.

Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.