

**Winthrop University**  
**Staff Conference Meeting Minutes**  
**July 17, 2018**  
**Dina's Place**

Staff Assembly Present: Nicole Chisari, Julia Fockler, Lydia Johnson, Wes Love, Kelly McGinnis, Kirk McSwain, Alicia Marstall, Brittany Neely,, Daphne Sears  
Absent: Johnathan Brabson, Rachel Glover, Laura Johnson  
Vacancies: three positions  
Staff in attendance: Approximately 50

Meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Nicole Chisari, Chair

June meeting minutes were approved.

Several questions were submitted by staff and President Mahony answered:

1. With the new logo, being added to vehicles, when would the Admissions vehicle be updated?  
The vehicle decals are being completed in phases. The Tillman tower decal was replaced first on vehicles and the eagle head was in the second phase.
2. Scholar's Walk is looking a bit rundown and there is rotting wood on the base of the pergolas, when will they be fixed. Wes Love responded by explaining what a pergola was and stated that they were made of wood and are on the radar to be fixed. All structures will be checked before the fall semester begins for safety.
3. Folks are concerned about the wrong way drivers on Alumni Drive in front of Tillman and what can be done about this. Chief Scoggins responded that these areas are continuously monitored by his staff. The cars will normally be stopped and given a warning, and they use this stop as an "educational" moment. The cars are then turned around and go the correct way. Normally these cars are people who are not familiar with campus. Campus Police is always looking at signage to make it easier to navigate campus. It was suggested that possibly painting arrows on the roads or installing speed bumps could help. The speed bumps are an issue for emergency vehicles. Send suggestions to Chief Scoggins.
4. An update was requested on the food service contract. The president provided some background information on this topic. Every 10 years the contract has to be reviewed. Therefore, campus compiled a group of people to develop a RFP so we could get the best possible deal. A lot of research was done for this. This then goes to the state level and the contract belongs to the state, not Winthrop. There are 3 scorers involved in the selection; we have 1/3 vote. The Board of Trustees then has to vote to approve the contract after a 10-day protest period. Any company not chosen has 10 days to protest the selection. After those 10 days, the BOT will vote. Once approved and signed the contract goes into effect, which will be before August 1. At this time, there will be no change of food services on campus. In addition, the new company normally re-hires the current staff to make this transition easier.

The president also reports that we received \$800,000 from the state this year instead of the original \$500,000 as previously thought. These funds were used to cover the increase in pension and health benefits. The FY 18-19 budgets have been loaded but not the full amounts. Only a portion of the budget amounts were loaded; the rest will be loaded after the Board of Trustees approves the budget.

Nicole then introduced the new Staff Assembly Members.

The Mission Statement of Staff Assembly was highlighted in the slide presentation. This was presented to explain what our function is. We cannot solve personnel issues, but we can obtain information on a

topic that you have questions about. Please submit questions and yes, they can be anonymously. We can be your direct line to Administrators and the President. There are opportunities to lead through Staff Assembly. Be involved and join a committee.

Staff Assembly members are also always open to feedback and suggestions. We have addressed the length of our meeting, where and when to meet. Please let us know if you have any suggestions and/or feedback.

Standing Committee Reports:

**Campus & Community Involvement** – Pam reported that the committee would be having a cookout for their members on July 21st. At this meeting, they will be discussing items for next year.

**Elections & Nominations** – Julia reported an email was sent to fill the position in Academic Affairs and the HR position will close on Wednesday.

**Media & Communications** –Kara reported that the next Staff Stuff would be out in August. If you are not receiving the Staff Stuff newsletter, please let Kara know and she will add you to the distribution list.

**Professional Development** – Goldie thanked everyone that attended their event. They had 120 attendees. The Power Point presentation will be sent to staff in case you were not able to attend. A survey has been sent asking for feedback too.

**Staff Feedback** – Rachel was not available today. Kirk reported that the committee is finishing the salary and budget report. Also, if you are interesting in joining the group, please contact Rachel Glover.

**Recognition Committee** –Miranda reported that they did not have many nominations for this month and will be waiting for next month to award the Staff Member of the Month. Get those nominations in.

Brittany introduced eleven new hires this month.

Tina Vires was unavailable for the meeting, so Sharda Nelson announced the “Staff Superhero of the Month.” The winner was Callie Smith. Please send those nominations to Tina.

Next Staff Conference will be at Dina’s Place on Tuesday, August 28, 2018. The meeting date has been changed due to the regularly scheduled date being the beginning of the fall semester.

Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.