STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
February 15, 2006
465 University Center

Members Present: Amber Amari, Angela Arnold, Renee Bazemore, Melissa Brenneman, Melissa Buchheit, Vernessa Callahan, Natasha Davenport, Patricia Dary, Sandra Garber, June Houston, Angela Lefebvre, Katie Lowry, Jean Miller, Bonte Mitchell, Phillip Mitchem, Charlotte Petrek, Wanda Ponder, Debbie Rupp, Preeti Sagar, Jackie Slaton, Angela Turk, Susan Vogner, and Anita Webb.

Members Excused: Dave Bledsoe, Dawn Davis, MaryAnne Gaunt, Ruby Hopkins, Jarrett King, Jan McCord, John Medlock, Sandra Miller, Renee Stephens, Marlon Williams, Rhonda Williams, and B. J. Yergens.

Members Absent: Victor Bolet, Olivia Caesar, Danny Darby, Deborah Dunbar, Tazar Gissentianner, Al Gore, Toure Heywood, Tyra Hineo, Carol Miller, Larry Pankey, Jefferson Stockwell, Adolphus Strowd, Michelle Swain, Randy Trammell, Maria Trejo and Shelly-Ann Williams.

Guests: Lee Armstrong, Lengar Asra, Wendy Bingham, Genc Goga, Sarah Hunsberger, Carl Patton, Kendra Radcliff, Cheryl Johnson Ransaw, Carol Whitcomb, Alvita Williams, Sabrina Wilson, and James Winters.

The SC President, Debbie Rupp, called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. The first item of business was the approval of the January minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

University President Carl Patton was introduced. Dr. Patton thanked everyone for all their hard work as they go about their day-to-day jobs. He gave an update on the Science/Teaching Laboratory. There will be a total of four buildings and the groundbreaking for the first two buildings will be in the fall. He has been lobbying the legislature for salary increases for all employees next year. The Humanities Building is number 23 on the BOR list. A temporary housing facility for research animals is being constructed behind Classroom South and adjacent to parking lot G. Dr. Patton gave an update on the Decatur Street project and the reconstruction of the Courtland Street Bridge. We are working with the DOT to coordinate all these projects so that the rerouting of telephone and computer lines will only have to be done once.

The next item was the awarding of the Spring semester Staff Scholarships. Alvita Williams and Jim Winters (the new Comptroller) assisted Debbie with the awarding of the certificates. Debbie then recognized the Staff Council representatives who will be rotating off of the council this year. The representatives' name was called and Debbie gave each a certificate.

Debbie then called for committee reports. Election Committee chair Melissa Brenneman gave a summary of the Staff Council election process. The nominations are closed and voting online has begun. She distributed flyers announcing the dates for voting and asked folks to post them around the university. Staff senator elections are coming up as well. Melissa also gave an update on the Alternate Work/Life Program. Currently this is on hold until GSU gets into compliance with the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. The "9/80" program was approved but won't be implemented until after FLSA compliance is assured.

Debbie gave the report on FACP. The university will undergo a 2% cut in the FY2006 budget. Charlotte Petrek gave the report for Faculty Affairs. Discussions in that committee have focused on bookstore issues and the college data mart.

Debbie asked Cheryl Johnson Ransaw if there were any announcements from FASA. The Weight Watchers program did get enough people to hold sessions this semester.

Renee Bazemore gave Debbie a card signed by everyone thanking her for her hard work as Staff Council President for the last two years.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone

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