STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
October 18, 2006
460 University Center


Members Excused: Manetha Alston, Amber Aman, Victor Bolet, Gretchen Cannon, MaryAnne Gaunt, Sharon German, Bonita Mitchell, Christopher Robertson, Debbie Rupp, Randy Trammell, Anita Webb, and Lawana Wimerley.


Guests: Earl Daniels and Leah Harris.

Staff Council President Philip Mitchem called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The first item of business was the approval of the September minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

Phillip opened the meeting by thanking everyone who helped make this year’s Benefits/Information Day so successful. Approximately 1,048 people attended. Some vendors packed up early. The posters that were placed by the time clocks in Facilities seemed to help increase the number of Facilities staff who attended. Open enrollment will be later than usual this year. HR will mail benefits information to everyone’s home by November 9.

President Patton spoke next. He spoke of wanting to get the staff more engaged and involved in the life of the University. He feels that an engaged staff will be a happier and more productive staff. This will benefit the students as well as the faculty and others in the University community. He asked council members to be thinking of ways to increase staff morale and he will continue this dialog with the council over the next few months. Several people noted the increased lighting in the decks and around campus. This is a much needed improvement and makes staff feel safer. After Dr. Patton left there continued to be a discussion about ways to increase morale. It was agreed that at each committee meeting in the coming months, this would be on the agenda. Committee chairs will bring all ideas to the Executive Committee for consideration. The Staff Development Committee will be asked to put all feasible ideas together in a document that can be distributed at the SC meeting and given to President Patton.

Next, Phillip called for committee reports. The Faculty Affairs Committee has been discussing the changes to the ORP. The Cultural Diversity Committee will be working on ADA compliance issues. John Medlock reported for the SC Bylaws Committee. John reviewed the Board of Officers proposal being brought forward by the committee. He went over all the sections of the proposal and asked for feedback from the council. Anyone with suggested changes or concerns should contact John or Phillip by Thursday, October 26.

Since there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone