STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
September 20, 2006
460 University Center


Members Excused: Ed Able, Renee Bazemore, Annette Butler, Gretchen Cannon, Laurie Jones, Shantavia Reid, Christopher Robertson, Kenee Stephens, and Lawana Wimberly.

Members Absent: Kenyatta Bush, Eric Drayton, Jean Miller, and Stephanie Mullis.

Guests: Cynthia Arrington, Earl Daniels, KaMaria Glenn, Martiea McClinic, Jason McCullough, Kevin Ollivett, Kathy Rockwell and Richard Sewell.

Staff Council President Phillip Mitchem called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The first item of business was the approval of the August minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

The Staff Scholarship Awards were distributed. Eight of the fifteen award recipients attended the meeting and received their certificates. The floor was then turned over to Paula Huntley to talk about the mentoring program for women that will be starting soon. This six-month pilot program will run from January 2007 to June 2007 and 10 mentors and 10 mentees are needed. More information will be available at the Employee Benefits Information Day on October 10.

Kevin Ollivett, marketing director for the Athletics Department, spoke next. He encouraged everyone to come out to the basketball games. He stated that if any department would like to schedule an event that would include athletics, he would be open to discuss it. He would be happy to accommodate any and all proposals. He updated the council on the Panthersville renovations.

Next was Senate committee reports. Reports were filed from Cultural Diversity, Faculty Affairs, Research, Planning and Development and Athletics. Next were SC committee reports. Susan Vogtner reported that the Staff Development Committee is working on revamping the application for the Staff Scholarship. She distributed some ideas that the committee has been discussing and asked for feedback from the council. Amber Amari reported for the Communication Committee. That committee is considering putting together a newsletter that would go out twice a year. Story ideas being considered are: a message from President Patton, a message from the SC president, list of SC accomplishments, updates on the various construction projects around campus, a spotlight on a staff member, and SC committee reports. Any suggestions are welcomed. The Bylaws Committee is still working on revamping the SC officers to a Board of Officers. The committee will meet next week.

Phillip then asked the council for any comments or announcements. Sandra Garber mentioned her concern about the recent rash of muggings that have been happening close to campus. There was a general discussion about this and everyone agreed that the upper administration should communicate more openly and quicker about these attacks. The University community wants to hear about these stories from them and not have to read them in the newspaper or hear about it on the radio. The council agreed that Phillip should compose a letter to President Patton voicing the council's concern about these crimes.

Since there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone

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