
Excused: David Caudill, Ann Claycombe, Gregori Faroux, Cindy Forrest, Angie Lymon, Karmen Milton, Carmela Patillo, LaRose Raston, Amanda Stoll, Towanna Tookes, San Miller, Bill Prigge

Absent: James Amann, Kwaku Andoh, Eric Ashford, Kathy Bryant-Bonds, Lesia Chandler, Gregori Faroux, Melody Harris, Nigel Harris, Casey Heath, Keisha Jones, Mike Raderstorf, Henry Winston.

Guests: Dan Roberts, Beth Jones, Cheryl Johnson-Ransaw.

Opening Business
Amber Amari called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. The minutes for the June meeting were approved. Amber announced that the agenda would be modified because Athletics was unable to attend.

Zip Cars
Beth Jones presented information to the council on the new Zip Cars that will be located on campus. Zip Cars are cars available for short term rental. Three cars will be on campus in M-Deck and at the Commons. GSU negotiated for a discounted membership rate of $25 per a year. The rental fee includes gas, insurance, and travel up to 180 miles. Reservations can be made online and payments can be made by the hour or the day. Students 18 and up who have had a license for at least a year can register.

August Meeting
The August 18, 2010 Staff Council meeting will be held in the new Petit building, room 255. Tours will be provided after the meeting.
Health Benefit Update
Amber Amari gave the council an update on the proposed changes by the BOR to health benefits. The Total Rewards Steering Committee is preparing to make recommendations to the BOR at the August meeting. Cheryl Johnson-Ransaw is a member of the steering committee.

The following are on the short-list of recommendations:
- Self funding the BC/BS HMO and HDHP and Kaiser HMO plans
- Continuing to seed the Health Saving Accounts, but at a lower amount
- Adding a $50/month surcharge for tobacco use unless recently quit or currently in a cessation program
- Making minor changes to the prescription plan
- Installing various wellness provisions
- Require future retirees to pay the full employee portion if they elect not to enroll in Medicare
- More restrictive doctor networks

Cheryl stated that much work is still needed to research, benchmark, and create procedures for these recommendations. Some council members voiced concern over the tobacco use surcharge. This has been implemented elsewhere on an honor system. The insurance company could also look for suspicious claims to find smokers. Some Council members felt this could be a breach of privacy. Cheryl stated that this would be a first phase and later phases could look at other vendors for future contracts.

The rates are still being determined, but it is likely they will be 10% higher. Council members voiced concerns about the self funding. Recently, it was announced that the state’s self-funding plan would run out of money.

Training Programs
Don Roberts will be rolling out some new training modules. He will be collecting feedback.
Don is also looking for facilitators for training programs.
HR will have an open house Augst 19 at One Park Place from 10 – 12 and 2 – 4.

Committee Reports
Staff Survey ad hoc – John Medlock discussed they survey the committee is working on. It will be distributed to most staff. They are working with Institutional Effectiveness and the ASUR committee. The pilot testing of the survey has begun. They hope to distribute the survey next summer.

Administrative Committee – Kevin Chappel stated that the committee did not meet in July. They have been working on a bylaws change to allow the removal of Council members.

Communication Committee – Gretchen Cannon indicated that they have staff spotlights ready in advance so there is no lag. These will be posted the first of each month. She
would like nominations. The committee is designing the website and adding more updates. They are making a facebook page.

Work Life – Gary Fessenden reported that the committee is following up on the letter sent to HR regarding including ‘service’ on evaluations. The letter is now with Jerry Radcliffe. The committee combined the listserv and craigslist sub-committees and is continuing to work on these projects.

Staff Recognition – Stephanie Echols provided the council with posters to assist in the marketing of the staff scholarship. The deadline for the fall scholarship is August 20th. A 3.0 is no longer required; only good academic standing. The committee is brainstorming ways to publicize the funding of the scholarship as well.

Staff Development and Advancement – Telley Murray stated that the ESL program had overenrolled and they received a larger invoice than anticipated. They will be working with the United Way to see if staff can receive the free ESL/GED classes through them. The committee is researching mentoring programs. They will also make a strategic plan for wellness and training. The Toastmaster charter ceremony will ne next month.

Sustainability – Susan Mondello stated that the committee had a meeting scheduled for the next day. They will be working to raise the University to a higher level with sustainability. They hope to have upper administration sign a climate commitment contract. They will be looking into joining professional sustainability organizations. The committee is continuing to coordinate with other organizations and schools.

Community Relations – Kimberly Moore had nothing to report.

Senate Committees

Budget – Jowanna Tillman stated that the committee has been meeting weekly. They are working to anticipate reaction from the budget and any necessary communications.

Admin Council – Amber Amari announced that the committee saw a very interesting presentation on GSU branding. She hopes to have a speaker present this topic to the council in the future.

Strategic Planning – Sandra Garber reported that staff should be receiving an update email. The committee is continuing to work on 4 goals. They prepared 4 discussion papers: diversity, visibility, sustainability, and the library & the transfer of information. The committee will also be bringing two speakers to campus to discus the current and future of education.