



Armstrong Atlantic State University
Minutes of the Staff Advisory Council
Wednesday, January 11, 2006

Present: Amy Carter, Jonnie Chandler, Fern Illidge, Peter Mastopoulos, Shannon Mastopoulos, Betsy Ray, Becky Smith, Noot Tisdale, Peggy Williams, and Rebecca Carroll (ex-officio).

The members of the Staff Advisory Council met at 1:00 p.m. in the Armstrong Center Technology Conference Center.

The January meeting of the Staff Advisory Council was called to order at 1:35 p.m. Wednesday, January 11, 2006. Fern Illidge, Chair, presided.

I. Fern Illidge noted the approval of the minutes of the December 7, 2005 meeting. The minutes were approved via the web by the Council.

II. Barbara Tanenbaum

Dr. Barbara Tanenbaum presented to the Council the 12/12/05 Draft of the Vision Statement/Guiding Principles/Goals/Strategies of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Tanenbaum encouraged feedback from the Council.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Motion made to involve the Staff Advisory Council in the new Vice President search committee.

Rebecca Carroll reported that she met with President Jones and offered the support of the Council in the vice president search. Dr. Jones did consider having Fern Illidge, Chair of the Council, serve on this search committee, however, he has some additional searches coming up in 2006 that he will need for the Chair to participate in.

B. Sick Leave Policy Proposal - Status of Timeline

Rebecca Carroll met with the Vice Presidents; the Vice Presidents approved the policy. Mr. Brignati will work out some minor issues and Dr. Wheeler will place this item on the agenda for the February faculty meeting.

A special called staff assembly will be set following the faculty meeting. The projected timeline shows March 15-30 for Open Enrollment.

Pete Mastopoulos recommended that an advisory update about the Sick Leave Pool Policy be sent to the staff and faculty prior to the formal unveiling of the

program at the staff assembly and the faculty meeting. A power point will be developed for the special called staff assembly. Rebecca Carroll and Pete Mastopoulos will meet with the Sick Leave Pool Policy Sub-Committee the end of January to discuss these items.

IV. Staff Textbook Scholarship Fund

Gail Rountree met with Fern Illidge, and Peggy Williams on 12/15/05 to discuss the scholarship criteria. The fund stands at \$143.00 at the present time.

The following criteria were discussed and decided upon:

- The Council agreed that we should allow only AASU students to apply for scholarship, as this relates to retention. Therefore, if an employee decides to take classes at Georgia Southern, he/she will not be eligible for the scholarship.
- Only full-time staff who are eligible for the Tuition Assistance Program will be eligible for the scholarship.
- There are no limits on semester hours taken for scholarship eligibility.
- The scholarship cannot be received by the same person two semesters in a row.
- The Council would like to have the awarded scholarship money placed on the staff member's account. This will enable the staff member to use their ID to purchase their textbooks in the bookstore. Fern Illidge will contact Diana Cummings to find out how to accomplish this by the end of next week.

V. Special Events Committee

The Council agreed to discuss it at the next meeting due to time restraints.

VI. Additional Business - Next Meeting

- The Council will discuss staff compensation for degree completion at the next regularly scheduled meeting. This is per Rebecca Carroll's request for her and Jonnie to meet with Vice President Bell. Jonnie Chandler suggested that they include the Staff Advisory Council in implementing ideas before the meeting with Dr. Bell.
- Pete Mastopoulos is excused to miss the February meeting, as he will be at a conference.
- Amy Carter is excused to miss the March meeting, as she will be out of town for a wedding.
- There was a motion to move the meetings to the Burnett Hall Board Room. The motion was seconded and approved by the Council.
- It was mentioned that the meeting dates on the SAC web site needed to be updated.

- Amy Carter volunteered to reserve the room for the April Assembly meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Smith, Secretary

Next Council meeting:

Wednesday, February 1st at 1:00 in the Burnett Hall Board Room.

Web site questions:

There were no questions submitted to the web site.