Staff Council Meeting Minutes
UC, Bayview 320
January 23, 2018

Members Present: Catherine Bridges, Luisa Butler, Heather Calderon, Carrie Coursey, Jennifer Escamilla, Cassie Eyring, Delaney Foster, Alessandra Garcia, Veronica Harris, Randy Lara, Maria Martinez, Hayford Osei, Elizabeth Palacios, Christopher Palfreyman, Maria Pedigo, Liz Perez, JP Regalado, Nancy Salinas, Leslee Schauer (Proxy: Amy Besa), Lori Shearin, Martha Simcik, Terry Tatum

Members Absent: Sara Chapa, Debra Cortinas, Dee Dee Hubenak, Elizabeth Longoria, Cari Reed, Patricia Rodriguez, Cynthia Salinas, Ben Soto

Guests: Friederike Davis, Andrea Gilson, Dr. Frank Spaniol

Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 3:03pm by JP Regalado

I. Guest Speakers: Friederike Davis, and Andrea Gilson, who represent SGA on the Islander Leadership Conference Planning Committee.
   a. The annual Islander Leadership Conference is Saturday, February 17, 2018 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
   b. The topic is working inclusiveness and diversity into leadership roles.
   c. The speakers are Cecilia Garcia Akers (daughter of Hector P. Garcia) and Monti Washington (motivational speaker).
   d. Students, Faculty and Staff are encouraged to attend. Registration is on OrgSync.

II. Approval of Minutes – Catherine Bridges on behalf of Leslee Schauer.
   a. No revisions were suggested.
   b. Elizabeth Palacios made a motion to approve the minutes and Liz Perez seconded. Motion passed.

III. President’s Report – JP Regalado
   a. JP gave thanks to those who attended the Faculty Senate and Staff Council mixer. It was a success and there is discussion of having another.
   b. Thanks were also given for all those who participated or volunteered at Islander Lights and the fundraising efforts.
   c. The December potluck was a good event and JP appreciates all those who came.
   d. Roneka Polidore, the new Administrative Assistant for Staff Council was introduced to the Council. She has begun work.
   e. As was announced at the Faculty/Staff Meeting, Dr. Clarenda Phillips has been chosen as the incoming Provost and will begin March 1.
   f. The inauguration of President Quintanilla will be Friday, March 2.
      i. There will be a picnic outside from 11:30-1:00 on East Lawn (with Island Hall Gym as a backup location).
ii. The Investiture Ceremony will be from 3:30 to 5:00 in the PAC, but will also be broadcast for those who cannot attend. It is open to all Staff and Faculty, but it is limited seating. Dr. Frank Spaniol will be representing Faculty Senate, and JP will be representing Staff Council.

iii. There will be volunteer opportunities, with more information to follow.

iv. There will be many special guests and VIPs.

v. It is recognized that these activities take up a large portion of the day and that the University is open that day. Many people may not be able to get away to attend. We want the message to be out there that we want as many people to participate as possible.

IV. Vice President’s Report – No report

V. Treasurer’s Report – Catherine Bridges
   a. The report was not sent out, but copies are available. Note that the SECC balance was sent to SECC, so that account has been zeroed out.
   b. Motion to approve by Jennifer Escamilla and was seconded by Nancy Salinas. Motion passed.

VI. Old Business
   a. No Old Business was presented.

VII. Committee Reports
   a. Nominations and Elections (Lori Shearin)
      i. In following up on the discussion to determine what to do about the disproportionate number of people rolling off the council this upcoming year, the committee met on December 6 to further discuss.
      ii. With the current terms as they are, we are going to have 17 people move off the council in August, with 11 remaining. The bylaws say that half of the council rotates out in even years and the other half in odd years.
      iii. The suggested solution put forth is for the three recent replacement members to extend their terms by one year. All three have said they would be open to that. Those members are Carrie Coursey, Alessandra Garcia and Elizabeth Longoria.
      iv. Motion to extend the terms for those three members to August 2019 made by Lori Shearin, second by Liz Perez. Motion passed.
   b. Dorothy Yeater (JP Regalado)
      i. There were 12 applications for spring. Of those, 9 were complete and awarded.
      ii. Discussion was had to fine tune application to clarify what is needed.
      iii. There is no rubric or criteria for designating awardees and JP asked them to work on one. There are basic requirements, but no clear way to decide if need be. More standardization would help with transparency.
Employee Excellence Awards-no report but ceremony is April 27 from 1:30-3:00. Retirees will be at reception from 1:00-1:30.

Annual Employee Luncheon (Nancy Salinas)
   i. It is March 13 and the theme is Boot’n & Scoot’n on the Island.
   ii. Asked council members to try to put giveaways together for donation.

VIII. University Committee Reports
   a. Wellness (Chris Palfreyman)
      i. Financial awareness week is February 20-22 and Chris will forward details.
      ii. Looking into discount on the “Gladiator” activities.
   b. Homecoming (Delaney Foster)
      i. February 4-10, e-mail went out about activities.
      ii. Shirts will be available for sale in the bookstore.
      iii. Events on every day.
      iv. There will be 3 different tailgates: unofficial, safe, alumni. There will also be a petting zoo and other activities.

IX. New Business
   a. Laura will be starting at UTSA on February 1.
   b. Laura had been serving on the Veteran’s Committee. JP will serve unless anyone would like to do so.
   c. Jennifer Escamilla mentioned that a staff member has suggested that there be a campus classified type of item. This could be for services, rentals, items for sale and the like. Delaney Foster said that there already was one-that a Facebook page exists on marketplace that does this. TAMUCC buy/sell/trade
   d. JP discussed an ongoing conversation with other Staff Council officers across the state to share and gather information. Twenty-seven universities have joined together and sent out a survey with the hope of forming a consortium. They sent out a survey to gather information on various issues.
      i. The group decided on six topics to focus on:
         1. Flexible work place and telecommute policy
         3. Health benefits: HR provided benefits
         4. Retirement benefits: HR provided benefits
         5. Advancement/Fundraising initiatives: i.e. staff scholarship, staff emergency fund, professional development funds.
         6. Tuition benefits: i.e. percentage off for a class or other benefits for attending class at your university.
      ii. This discussion poses some possibilities for committee work on the issues.

X. Good of the Order
   a. WorkDay –Terry Tatum asked about feedback.
b. Kudos
   i. Edgar de la Garza
   ii. Samantha (Sam) De Melim
   iii. Jamie Dietrich
   iv. Daniel Mendez
   v. Adriana Jimenez

XI. Meeting Adjournment – JP adjourned the meeting at 4:06pm.