



**Staff Council Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2017**

Members Present: Julie Whorl, Kathy Oeth, Rebecca Lutton, Amy Doninger, Mary T. Scheller, Heather Odom, Lisa Wulff, Stephanie Russell, Cindi Kuebler, Nicholas E. Bebout, Gloria Butz, Sherry Tynes, Vince Frazier, Shelby Jackson, Travis Dickison, Nita Musich, Denise Michael, Terri Alvey

Members Absent: Tammy Oliver, Cole Collier, Jeff Smith

Alternates Absent:

Guests Present:

- I. Call to Order – Nita Musich opened the meeting at 2:02 p.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes – Vince moved to approve the minutes; Nick seconded. The minutes were approved with corrections.

III. Committee Reports

- A. Employee Relations – Student Worker Appreciation week will be February 13 – 17. Terri Alvey indicated that the committee will send reminders via email and offer suggestions for recognizing students for the work they do on campus. The Staff Council website contains printable certificates and examples of what other departments have done in the past.

The next event will be the Employee Picnic. One possible theme is Board Games. Everyone agreed that fried chicken was a popular menu choice. The committee will work around Dr. Bennett’s calendar to schedule the event and check with Special Events to reserve Carter Hall.

- B. Economic Benefits – Vince Frazier reported that the committee is working on items for the upcoming budget request. Staff Council will support the 100% tuition fee waiver for employee dependents that the Faculty Senate is proposing. Other suggestions will be discussed by the committee at their next meeting. The Economic Benefits Committee’s survey was distributed to Staff Council as a way to start the discussion of what Staff Council wants to propose at the budget hearings. This was an informal study for internal use only.

The question of why staff isn’t offered a discount in the loft came up. Staff members responded that there is a discount with the Munch Money program. Employees must pay tax unless you have the card flagged as a student card.

- C. Nominating – Travis Dickison indicated that nominations are being considered for the May election. There are seven seats up for election. Three people, Nita Musich, Cindy Kueber, and Lisa Wulff, are term limited. However, Nita Musich will serve next year as past chair. Travis will ask for candidates at the end of March.

IV. Other University Committee Reports

- A. President’s Council – Nita Musich reported that the biennial budget request is before the legislature. The Governor’s budget, which is the starting point, has no new line items, no capital projects, and no increases. The CHE backed our budget request. Dr. Bennett will present the budget to the House Ways and Means Committee tomorrow (January 18, 2017). Everyone can log on to the website to watch the presentation live.
- B. Administrative Senate – There was nothing to report from Administrative Senate.
- C. Faculty Senate – The Faculty Senate will present the 100% Tuition Fee Waiver proposal to the budget committee with Administrative Senate and Staff Council support.

- V. Old Business – Nita Musich reported that Steve Bridges and Andrew Lenhardt met with Staff Council Executive Committee about the Salary Survey. Andrew is putting together a list of consultants. If members of Staff Council have suggestions they can let Nita or Vince know. Shelby Jackson reported that HR has five consultants to choose from so far; two or three will be asked to come to campus to make a presentation. The Economic Benefits committee and Officers will be invited to the consultant presentations. Steve and Andrew are relying on Staff Council to tell them what we want the consultants to look at; Steve wants the process to be staff driven and transparent. Heather asked what we are trying to accomplish with the consultant. Nita responded that we are asking them to conduct a comprehensive study of the USI compensation package for

support staff compared to the region and make recommendations to Administration based on their findings. Both salary and benefits as part of compensation will be considered. It is possible that the results will not be what we expect; ultimately what the Administration does will be a function of budget. The question of who is paying for the consultant was brought up. The University is funding the study.

VI. New Business – There was no new business.

VII. Discussion/Announcements on January 24

Mary announced that Occupational Therapy Assistants will sponsor a blood drive on January 24, 2017 from 10 – 2 in Carter Hall. The Indiana Blood Center will be drawing blood.

Next Staff Council General Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 2 p.m. in UC 227.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.