**Staff Senate General Meeting**

**11/9/21**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Microsoft Teams**

Present: K. Sellers, G. Gates-Fowler, M. Marchesano, L. Crider, S. Louis-Jeune, B. Baines-Waiz, M. Brown, H. Ramroop, B. Holt, P. Hallman, C.J. Edwards, B. Vojnovic, T. Wilds, C. Lesko, V. Andrews, L. Quinones, A. Ruiz, D.J. Pollock, M. Salameth-Sevilla, and W. Jennings.

**President – M. Brown**

* Strategic Planning for USF
* Look it over and see if we see a reflection of staff in this plan?
* Holiday Message
* For the Staff.
  + Fill the University Wide Chair and Vice Chair and Asst. Secretary positions.
  + Emotional Intelligence Workshop.
  + What kind of issues or concerns are you having or seeing throughout the University right now that we can talk about and/or address?
  + Angie Sklenka working with Kim Hill on some type of memorial for folks we have lost to COVID.
  + Bonus/raise wasn’t communicated to the staff. Central HR did communicate, but the information did not trickle down to the employees.

**Vice-President – K. Sellers**

* + Still looking for Staff Senators. They can participate in the leadership training we are beginning today. Hopefully bring some value to the Staff Senate. There are six sessions, one session every other month.
  + Looking for vice chairs for the committees. Would like everyone to spend one hour per month.
  + Looking to create an emergency scholarship fund for Staff if they are in a difficult situation.
  + Looking to create a partnership with USF Federal Credit Union for emergency loans for staff when the get in a difficult situation and have it deducted from their paycheck.
  + University of West Florida Staff Senate web site is great. Maybe tweak some things on ours to make it more user friendly.

**Secretary – W. Jennings**

* A motion was made to approve the October minutes by K. Sellers and seconded by T. Wilds. The motion was approved.

**Treasurer’s Report – T. Wilds**

* E&G - $2,796.00
* Carry Forward - $13,515.00
* Concession Fund - $675.00
* Dollars for Staff Scholars - $2,096.58
* Gift-in-Kind - $1,250.00
  + One expenditure – for the banners which was $240.00.
  + Received more donations for the Dollars for Staff Scholars. Received a gift-in-kind from Aramark.
  + New vendor to investigate for shirts. Will look at both and see if we can move forward with this.

**Sergeant at Arms – P. Hallman**

* Welcome to Hansragi Ramroop, our new senator. She will work on the Senate Operations Committee.

**Parliamentarian – B. Vojnovic**

* Nothing to report.

**Committee Reports**

* **Communications – A. Ruiz/G. Gates Fowler**
  + - Nothing to report.
    - Welcome Brandis back to the Senate and the Communications Committee.
    - **Quiet Quality Awards – S. Louis-Jeune**
    - Get with T. Wilds about getting certificates mailed out.
    - P. Hallman reached out to get assistance with checking nominations in GEMS.
    - Sent final QQA nomination to G. Gates-Fowler and A. Ruiz. Make sure email is address.
    - Everything we have, and we have a lot of it, has the old logo on it. Will send us an inventory.
    - Tried to reserve March 2022 outside of the MSC in the amphitheater. Have to create a web idea to do so. Week of March 7, 2022. Outdoor event.
      * Do we have a rain site in the event of inclement weather? She will pick a rain site. Perhaps we can use the TECO room as a backup site if it rains.
      * **Racial Justice Committee**
* Regular meeting last Thursday. Reviewed the emergency meeting re: critical race bill. Faculty are concerned that this may affect their tenure because their research is based on critical race theory. If no support from USF, the faculty will go to the media.
* **Senate Operations – B. Deen**
  + Getting ready for elections in May for July 2022-June 2024.
  + Working on Dollars for Staff Scholars with W. Jennings and K. Sellers trying to raise funds.
  + **Staff Morale – B. Harris-Johnson/N. Marchesano**
* Nothing to report.
* **University Wide – need chair and co-chair**
* Nothing to report.

M. Brown will pursue us getting an advisor.

Any statistics on the diversity of the staff?

* HR keeps things very close. Would be very difficult to get that data.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy S. Jennings, Office Manager