

Staff Association Meeting September 11, 2013

Senators Present

Tara Adwell, Jackie Burns, Carol Criss, Amy Foley, Brenda Griffith, Diane Holtz, Debbie Johnson, Matt McDonald, Ryan Menley, Amy Parnell, Les Parnell, Hawley Rumpf, Carolyn Schindler, Jenny Sherlock, Tara Stoll

Senators Absent

Derek Evans

Staff Members Present

Jennifer Riley

Guests Present

Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Dr. Jeanne Daffron, Cale Fessler, Shana Meyer, Jerry Pickman, Sally Sanders

Report of Dr. Vartabedian

1. HB253 was not overturned (vetoed). Governor Nixon is to reinstate the 4% withhold back to Missouri Western. Three percent (3%) will be distributed to employees for retroactive salary increases.
2. Mayor Falkner of St. Joseph is supporting Missouri Western. He has reached out to our campus and will actively participate in Homecoming festivities.
3. Looking into establishing a faculty/staff general session in January 2014. This platform would be used to keep employees up-to-date with news, etc.
4. The Walter Cronkite Memorial is seven (7) weeks away.
5. Personnel Updates
 - a. Director of Development: search continuing

Report of Dr. Daffron

1. Third week of classes underway.
2. Enrollment is down 4-5%. This downturn was anticipated as high school graduates are declining across Missouri and the elimination of two-year programs and A+ funding.
3. Missouri Western will be focusing on communication on retention and new recruitment strategies.
4. Funding from the state will be determined on Performance Based (recruitment and retention).
5. Approximately \$2 million has been earmarked out of reserves to help with Missouri Western "eyesores". Potter and Wilson Halls along with Looney Complex will be the focus on improvements.

Report of Mr. Fessler

1. HB253 was not overturned (vetoed). Human Resources and Payroll department is working on how to retroactive salary increases. Communication will come out in the next few days.
2. Xerox is on campus. They are putting together a proposal for efficiency on copiers, fax, and printers.
3. Audit fieldwork is complete. Overall audit is still underway. Student Financial Services wrapped up the overall audit. No anticipation of findings. Fessler commended the offices of Student

Financial Services, as it is quite an accomplishment since \$40 million dollars from the federal government comes through their offices.

A question was asked about the retroactive salary increase. Will the increase be paid all in one check? July, August and September months will be paid in a lump sum. Going forward, the new salary will apply.

Report of Ms. Meyer

1. International Student recruitment has received great press. Seventy-nine (79) students are on campus. The top three (3) countries represented are Saudi Arabia (24 students), China (14 students), and South Korea (five students).
2. Tina Washburn, Admissions Coordinator, is currently in China for three (3) weeks actively recruiting.
3. Griffon Debate and Forensics has been established with two coaches and 11 students. Their first tournament is scheduled in October.
4. The Tailgating Policy has passed. A condensed version of the policy will be handed out.
5. Student Organizations will have tents set up during tailgating events.

Report of Mr. Pickman

1. Debbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant for Campus Printing and Design Services, celebrates her 25-year anniversary with Missouri Western.
2. Eggs and Issues is September 12 at 7:00 a.m. in Fulkerson Center. Speaker is Dr. Fred Czwerwonka, St. Joseph School District Superintendent.
3. 'Paint it Gold' Friday begins September 13. Persons who are spotted wearing their black and gold will receive a gift certificate from Aramark.
4. September 13 is United Way Day. Missouri Western Athletes will be around St. Joseph taking donations to support the United Way.
5. October 22 is the R. Dan Bouleware Convocation on Critical Issues. Speaker Doris Kearnes Goodwin will be presenting at 10:00 a.m. in Looney Complex.
6. October 27 is the MWSU Alumni Day at Arrowhead Stadium. Tickets are available in the Alumni Services office.
7. November 4 is the Walker Cronkite Memorial Dedication at 10:30 a.m. in Spratt Hall Atrium. Luncheon to follow. Cost of lunch is \$20.00.
8. November 13 is the premiere screening of the JFK Assassination/Cronkite Documentary "JFK: One p.m. Central Standard Time." Reception starts at 8:00 p.m. followed by the screening at 9:00 p.m.
9. University Advancement is seven weeks into the feasibility study for the Capital Campaign.

Report of Ms. Sanders

1. Wellness offerings have begun for the fall 2013 semester. A comprehensive calendar can be located on HR's website. Offerings include financial, cooking demonstrations, investment, etc.
2. Annual renewal is underway. The benefits committee is cautiously optimistic with renewal rates.
3. October 30-31, 2013 will be Open Enrollment. More information will be sent out to the campus as the time nears. Flu shots will be available during open enrollment sessions.
4. New contracts will be issued to exempt employees.
5. Second meeting of the Salary Survey Committee has taken place. The committee is looking into a labor market survey. Group is looking at the prior RFP from 2007.

Old Business

Hawley Rumpf's name was misspelled in the August 2013 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes from August with the change to Rumpf's last name was brought forward by Jackie Burns. Second was Debbie Johnson. August minutes were approved unanimously, with changes to spelling of last name.

Committee Reports

- Advantage
 - Carolyn Schindler reported the tree for Rhonda Ingham would be planted during the fall as weather conditions (drought) have delayed the planting.
- Constitution/By-Laws
 - No report
- Election
 - No report
- Grievance
 - No report
- Professional Development
 - Since July 1, 2013, the committee has approved \$1,305.00 in request. Remaining balance is \$1,695.00.
- Salary and Fringe
 - No report
 - Debbie Johnson accepted Chairperson position
- Special Events
 - No report
- Welcoming
 - Welcomed seven (7) new members since July

New Business

United Way is half way to their goal. They are giving away at \$200.00 gift certificate to the Elms Resort and Spa.

A recommendation was made about having Staff Association t-shirts designed and printed for each Staff member. Amy Parnell will research the policy and costs associated with the idea and present it at the next Staff Association.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. by Debbie Johnson, Hawley Rumpf seconded.

Next meeting is October 9, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in Blum 220.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Parnell
2nd Vice President, Staff Association
Staff Senator