

## **Staff Association Meeting February 13, 2013**

**Senators Present:** Carol Criss, Cathy Everett, Amy Foley, Sherry Hartley, Diane Holtz, Kathy Joe, Debbie Johnson, Ryan Menley, Amy Parnell, Les Parnell, Carolyn Schindler, Tara Stoll, Deatra Tyler.

**Senators Absent:** Barb Harris (on leave), Jenny Sherlock.

**Staff Members Present:** Kim Weddle, Jennifer Riley, Tara Adwell, Kendy Jones.

**Guests Present:** Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Dr. Jeanne Daffron, Dr. Jonathan Yordy, Dr. Judy Grimes, Sally Sanders.

### **Dr. Vartabedian:**

- Searches are underway for the VP for Student Affairs (the 4<sup>th</sup> candidate will come on campus Feb. 14), Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Executive Director for the incubator, Dean of the CSB (the committee is reviewing applicants), and Head Men's Basketball Coach (they had 150 applicants).
- Feb. 25 is the date for the dedication of the two sculptures, one in the Remington atrium and one outside Remington.
- Dr. V. spent three days in Jefferson City last week. These are the hot issues right now in the legislature that are relevant to Missouri Western:
  - Bonding
  - Funding Formula
  - Lifting the 2017 Sunset Clause on land leasing
  - Philanthropic matches from the state. Mechanism is there but not appropriations for the matches.
- Our legislative delegation helps us a lot. We now have 2 alumni who are not in our delegation, but are supporting us – Rep. Elijah Haahr and Rep. Kenneth Wilson.
- Athletics – Bass, Hill and Pister are still being looked at by NFL.
- At 7 a.m. Feb. 15, Mayor Bill Falkner will give the State of the City address. Dr. V. said he had never worked with a mayor who is more supportive of the hometown university. He encouraged staff assn. members to go to the address at the Stoney Creek.
- Board of Governors meetings are now on the fourth Thursdays at 3 p.m. At 1:30 before the Feb. 28 meeting, we will hold a reception to honor Karen Elifrits, who is retiring. At the board meeting, we will honor outgoing governors Tommye Quilty and Dan Danford.

### **Dr. Daffron:**

- We have two students who took advantage of the Reverse Transfer agreement we now have in place. They earned associate degrees. If you transfer from a 2-year without an associate degree, you can now earn the hours here and then get an associate degree from the prior institution. We have agreements with MCC in the Kansas City area and North Central in Trenton. A lot of people worked very hard on the agreement.

- The Chinese New Year celebration was a huge success. There was a large crowd, including community members.
- There are two upcoming theatre shows – “Private Lives” and “God of Carnage,” running on alternate evenings Feb. 21-March 3.
- The Prairie Lands Writing Project recently received a \$105,000 federal grant.
- We signed an agreement with the St. Joseph School District, where high schoolers who take the High School of Business with a B average and complete one semester at Missouri Western will earn three credit hours for business.
- Two accreditation team visits are coming up soon – the Department of Music and the Department of Nursing and Allied Health.

**Dr. Yordy:**

- We have Points of Pride posters up around campus and they contain a holder so people can take a small Points of Pride flyer. The students on the poster are from a photo shoot held in November.
- We recently received \$300,000 from the Ensworth Medical Education Scholarship Trust that had dissolved. It will be distributed to students who are going to medical school.
- A campaign consultant visited campus and will conduct a feasibility study for a capital campaign. It is a best practice to have someone from the outside conduct the study. A new recital hall is at the top of the internal campus list.
- The annual Alumni Association’s Mardi Gras at Boudreaux’s drew about 85 people.

**Dr. Grimes:**

- The Martin Luther King Jr. lunch was an awesome event. Ernestine Blakley was the guest speaker. There were a lot of students there.
- The Miss Black and Gold Pageant was held last weekend and was well attended.
- A Light Skin vs. Dark Skin event drew about 8 students.
- The Barbara Sprong Leadership Challenge is underway and we have had some very good panel discussions.
- There are 15 new international students this semester. The International Lecture Series this month featured Andorra.
- There were some nice articles in the Griffon News about international students and the nontraditional student center.
- A career development administrative assistant candidate will be on campus next week.
- Casino Night drew more than 700, up from 545 in 2012. We made an effort to bring in commuter students and faculty and staff.

**Sally Sanders:**

- We are switching the Wellness Screening from October to April, beginning this April. This works better with Blue Cross/Blue Shield’s rewards program and with HR’s schedule. We will still have flu shots offered in October.
- We are attending every conference or seminar we can, to learn more about healthcare reform and what it will mean to Missouri Western.

Carol Criss called the meeting to order. A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Deatra Tyler and seconded by Debbie Johnson. Motion passed with no changes.

Dr. Yordy gave a presentation on Missouri Western brands. He showed Missouri Western's wordmarks and logos that are trademarked or registered. He noted that the Discover Gold tagline is not being used anymore. Also, the university is now using, "Missouri Western" and not "Western."

Dr. Yordy said people can use up stationery, etc., that says "Western," but when they order more, it will say "Missouri Western."

He made 4 points:

1. Campus Printing and Design Services bids and handles all printed materials and publications.
2. Campus Printing and Design Services needs to approve all artwork and images used by all university units.
3. All university units must use licensed vendors.
4. All licensed vendors must receive art approval from Public Relations and Marketing prior to the production of any item.

Carol Criss said a lot of people do not know about the above four points, so Dr. Yordy said he will add a couple more points and then send the information out across campus at the same time we send out the information about an updated Graphic Standards Manual (which his area is working on right now).

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Advantage – Carolyn Schindler said they are raising money for a memorial tree for Rhonda Ingham. She found out that all money must go through the Foundation. The trees are \$200, and anyone can donate towards it. We want to put a plaque in the biology area and it will be added to the plaque in the Spratt Hall atrium.
2. By-laws – Nothing to report.
3. Grievance - Nothing to report.
4. Election – Nothing to report.
5. Professional Development - Diane plans to send out an email to the staff to remind them of the professional development funds and how to apply. Amy Parnell said she received an application in HR and will send it on. (HR gets all applications first.)
6. Salary and Fringe Benefits – They will meet next week.
7. Special Events - Nothing to report.
8. Welcoming – we welcomed four new employees – Jamie Exline, Jennifer Gawatz, Amiee Hoffman, Tony Loeffler.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Carol Criss reported that the Faculty Senate president, Bob Bergland, called her to tell her that the FS is moving forward with a pay raise proposal for the administration, and wondered if Staff Association was going to do any proposal. FS also has a proposal close to being ready about reinstating Distinguished Professor Awards.

That is why our Salary and Fringe Committee is meeting next week.

FS is basing their proposal on the Consumer Price Index, which says our pay is an average of 6.1% lower than other institutions. But based on the Cost of Living Adjustment, it is closer to 12%. FS is asking for 2% increase per year to catch up to the 6.1%.

Carol noted that the FS is proceeding because the Griffon News said we put \$3 million in reserves, but Carol believes this is not correct. She will talk to Cale Fessler to try to get correct figures.

Les Parnell said he was hesitant to see Missouri Western use reserves for salaries, and Deatra Tyler noted that we need to keep our reserves because we do not know what new costs Missouri Western will incur because of the healthcare bill.

Bergland also suggested we review our award criteria, so the Salary and Fringe Committee will address that, too.

Carol said the Staff Association has two large boxes of t-shirts in the VP for Financial Planning and Administration's Office. People can come and get one. She will send out an email.

Kendy Jones said she has coffee mugs that anyone can have.

Amy Parnell moved to adjourn and Deatra seconded.