University of Nevada Reno

Staff Employees Council (SEC)

Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2015

Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor, JCU

Representatives Present: Albert Bonk (Chair), Betsy Brownfield (Vice-Chair), Michelle Bruce, Jodi Fraser, Carla Geib (Treasurer), Sarah Ruiz (proxy for Debra Glogovac), Margo Grubic, Robert Hernandez, Nancy Horowitz, Natsumi Housely, Kathy Johnson (Secretary), Lindsarac Klaes, Linda Kuchenbecker (Ex-Officio Chair), Harley LaRoche, Jennifer Laslo, David Lockyer, Cheyenne Magpantay, Mary Miller, Sam DiMuzio (proxy for Alicia Seefeldt), Pamela Terango, Mona Watts, Bianca Galeano (proxy for Adria White).

Representatives Absent: Ashley Andrews (Public Relations Coordinator), Steven Hollingsworth, Jodi Yocum.

Guest Speakers: President Johnson, Chuck Price.

I. Announcements/Action Items
   a. February meeting minutes approved. Moved by Betsy and seconded by Jodi Fraser.
      Nancy asked that employee of the month notes be corrected. Kathy said she would do that. As of 4/14/15, the notes are corrected and submitted to SharePoint.
   b. Albert mentioned the survey from Faculty Senate about weapons on campus. He asked us to participate in the survey. This survey was sent to all faculty and classified employees.

II. President Johnson
   a. He began by saying that student enrollment increased 8% from last spring, and this past fall, enrollment increased 6.2% from the previous fall.
   b. President Johnson went over some building projects on campus. The completion of the Student Achievement Center is ahead of schedule and is set to open in January of 2016.
c. White Pine will be torn down and a new dorm with double the capacity will be built.

d. The new arts center will be between Church Fine Arts and the Journalism building.

e. Things are moving along in the legislature. He hasn't heard anything against any expenditure pieces of the Governor’s budget like furlough and merit raises. There is no support of longevity or faculty merit raises.

f. Governor proposed the tax package and was open to sources of revenue.

g. Betsy asked if Juniper is closing, but the President said no. Lincoln is closing first; the designer hired a preservation architect. This way we don’t have to do a seismic retrofit which would be cost prohibitive.

h. Linda K. asked we reach the goal of 22K students in 2022, how do we accommodate. He answered that classroom wise we can. He says we can accommodate the 22,000 students without new buildings, but we will have to expand the schedule by opening new sections and hiring new faculty.

i. Linda asked if the psychiatry program is moving to the US Bank building by Meadowood Mall. President Johnson said that the psychiatry services program for the SOM in the Nelson Building will move there since Nelson is too small and not convenient for their clients.

j. David Lockyer asked about the GIA addition of dependents. President Johnson said that it is under consideration, and might find funding this fall for the next fiscal year. Still under consideration for funding for next year. We have to look at policy changes that have to be made to make this possible. Also hoping that we can do this differentially; so if some institutions have no money and can’t do this right now, an institution that can fund it can add dependents on the GIA program.

k. Lindsarae asked if the move to the Washoe County school facility has made any progress. The President said that it is on hold. WC said that it had been advised not to discuss this anymore as long as the legislature is in session. We honored this and will not talk to them until June.

l. Betsy asked if the Smoke Free campus is still a go on August 1. The President said the Tobacco Free Initiative will begin on August 1. Social enforcement will be done first. This provides an environment in which students can learn about healthy lifestyles. This year of approach will be one in which we can get proper signage and opportunities for
people to lessen their tobacco use. We’re not requiring that people quit tobacco, just not to smoke on campus.

III. Chuck Price

a. Began by thanking us for inviting him and that this past month has been informative in the legislature.

b. Shared governance – he said that shared governance really works on campus. We all have input and are privileged to have input. We can express concerns with the President. Although it is in an advisory status, our thoughts and opinions are important.

c. Compensation – the elimination of furloughs; step increases except for faculty. This is the state budget but very high priority for NSHE. What NSHE submitted was elimination of furlough, weighted credit hours. Also merit for everyone was included in NSHE budget proposal. The BOR chair said to be patient about faculty increases.

d. The Faculty Senate website there is a resolution that it passed in February. The things that are mentioned for Faculty are also for classified staff.

e. Last week Chuck forced a vote about sending a survey out about weapons on campus. The survey was sent out to classified staff also.

f. Jodi Fraser asked if he knows the exact date the weapons on campus bill are going before the Senate and Assembly. He didn’t know.

g. Chuck said that we have the right to testify at the legislature as citizens of Nevada, not as NSHE employees. Inform Heidi Gansert if you’re going to testify.

h. Betsy asked if the Faculty Senate and SEC survey results will be kept separate. Yes, they will.

i. Linda K. asked if the results of the survey will be different than the resolution that was passed previously. If you look at the web resolution, it reads that we don’t want weapons, but it was outdated. Will the different wordage make a difference? He doesn’t know, but we need to take action. He encourages us to remind constituents to vote so we can get a strong turnout. Does that answer your question? What she said she asked was that there was not a survey before, do you think the opinions will be different. He is going to leave that up to the results.
j. Linda K. asked if he thinks the faculty will respond well to the survey. He said there is already a 33% response rate. He suggested we send a reminder on Monday since the survey closes on Tuesday, 11:59pm.

k. Linda K. asked Chuck what he has learned that could help us. He said it doesn’t matter whether your admin faculty or academic faculty or classified, it boils down to shared governance.

IV. SEC Open House

a. The Open House will be held on March 18 from 10:00-1:00. Betsy asked if everyone sent out the flyer. She said there will be a lot of good vendors and a lot of doughnuts. Albert said that we need volunteers at the SEC table. Nancy said to perhaps hand out the Save the Date for the Reception; Betsy said that she printed out some flyers.

V. Two Weapons Bills

a. Albert went over the two bills – AB148 and AB2. AB 148 is the concealed carry bill and AB2 is the weapon locked in a box in a vehicle. March 25 is the “Teach In” at UNR in opposition of AB148 on the front steps of the Knowledge Center.

VI. Chairs

a. Albert asked for the number of chairs on the committee. Charges haven’t been sent out yet. Asked us to write up charges-what a committee does and when it meets. Pamela said that the list of charges that they work through on the Compensation Committee are outdated. How do new charges get created? Do we create them? Betsy and Albert said you recommend what needs to be done. If you’re the chair or co-chair let the Executive Board know so they the website can be updated so we can know who to send the charges to.

b. Cheyenne asked if we could send out a list that shows what committees people are on. She can go off this list to update the website. Betsy said that the charges should come from SharePoint, not the website. Cheyenne said to send her any events or recent news to her via email so that she can update the website.

Meeting adjourned at 3:42