

Supportive Professional Staff Council

Minutes

January 12, 2023

Teams Meeting

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Approved February 9, 2023

Call to Order: President Bohanon called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call: Costello called the roll. A quorum was not immediately present. President Bohanon asked everyone to share their thoughts and goals for the new year, allowing everyone a chance to get signed in. Upon reaching a quorum, President Bohanon called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

Members Present: Eric Armstrong, Felicia Bohanon, Melanie Costello, Heath Duncan, Liz Guess, Joe Lovelace, Frances Mitchell (Admin Aide), Scott Mooberry, Margaret Myles, Tom O'Grady, Jesse Perez, Michelle Pickett, Anthony Preston, Andrew Rogers, Ronald Smith, Manuel Valdez, Dan Wolfe, Megan Woodruff

Members Excused: Nathan Birtell, John Boswell, LaBrian Carrington, Lupe Flores, Dara Little, Jennifer Manning, Shannon Stoker, Christina Sutcliffe, Jason Underwood

Approval of Agenda: Properly motioned and seconded (Mooberry; Costello); all in favor, none opposed. Agenda approved by voice vote.

Approval of December 8, 2022 Minutes: Properly motioned and seconded (Pickett; Smith); all in favor, none opposed. December 2022 minutes approved by voice vote.

University Committee Reports

Faculty Senate: Ishmael Montana: The Faculty Senate met November 16. Dr. Freeman presented her 2022-2023 university goals engaging the Senate relative to faculty goals, promotion and tenure, etc. seeking feedback. The Faculty Senate gave their feedback which President Freeman accepted and incorporated into her presentation going forward. Also, six student leaders presented the current state of the Husky Food Pantry and the ways the University and the community can support their work.

University Council met November 30. President Freeman shared a draft of her university goals.

BOT, full board met December 8 and approved President Freeman's University goals for 2022-2023. The highlight of the meeting was the presence of a huge contingent of United Faculty Alliance calling on the Board to urge the University Administration to return to the bargaining table.

The BOT also approved the appointment of Dean Laurie Elish-Piper to serve as Interim Executive Vice President and Provost for AY 23-24, effective July 1, 2023.

Operating Staff Council: Holly Nicholson: The council's civil service celebration committee is looking to include SPS employees, some of whom may volunteer to serve on the celebration committee. Also, there will be a surprise guest at the February OSC meeting; John Heckman is scheduled for March; George Middlemist, newly hired Chief Financial Officer, is on the agenda for April.

Vice President's Report: Tom O'Grady: The Parking Appeals Committee met December 13 to review 23 appeals, 9 approved, 13 denied and 1 reduced fine. There were no other reports.

SPS Council Committee Reports:

Advocacy: No report. Meeting next week.

Awards: No report.

Communications & Technology: President Bohanon is working with this committee to update the Council's website making it more user friendly and to make the OSC Personnel Advisor, Joe Lovelace, more visible. The group will be meeting with Web Communications Assistant Director, Holly Nicholson, to work out the updating process.

Constitution & Elections: No report.

Professional Development: No report.

Regional & Community Relations: No report.

SPS Dependent Scholarship Fund: Ronald Smith. This committee is working with President Bohanon to increase promotion of the scholarship. The committee seeks Council approval for the following changes: increase the scholarship amount for a relative from \$1000 to \$1250 and increase the mentee amount from \$500 to \$750 and move the deadline for applications from January 31 to February 28. Plans are being made to promote the scholarship and increasing the fund to \$25,000 that is the level required for endowment under the *original contract*. The Fund, with the assistance of the Foundation, will be seeking donations from employees and external donors. "My Scholarship" training will be offered later this month or early February, providing an opportunity to get a crash course.

President Bohanon asked for approval to increase the Fund budget to \$2000 and to conduct an aggressive effort to raise funds. Committee member, Ronald Smith, moved for approval* to increase the \$1000 scholarship to \$1250 and the \$500 scholarship to \$750. There was no discussion, all in favor, none opposed, the motion carried. (*motion from committee does not need a second)

Having no further business, President Bohanon adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Representatives: Please contact our SPSC Secretary, Melanie Costello, (melcostello@niu.edu) and SPSC Administrative Aide, Frances Mitchell, (fmitchell@niu.edu) if you are unable to attend a meeting. An Alternate will be contacted for you.
Alternates: You are invited to attend all meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melanie Costello, Secretary
Supportive Professional Staff Council*