

Supportive Professional Staff Council Meeting

Thursday, June 13, 2019

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

HSC Sky Room

Approved July 11, 2019

Present: Adzovic, Ballard, Bohannon, Bredberg, Doederlein, Dymond, Gipson, Kazmierczak, King, Napientek, Olson, Salmon, Sutcliffe, Xidis

Excused: Boughton, Hochstatter, Miller, Myles

Absent: Anderson, Bridges, McKee, Meyer, Reid

I. Call to Order: President Doederlein called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m. Approval of Amended Agenda, motioned and seconded, all in favor, no abstentions, none opposed.

Motion: Kazmierczak

Second: Sutcliffe

II. Approval of Minutes: Doederlein asked for a motion to approve the May 10, 2019 minutes; motioned and seconded, all in favor, no abstentions, none opposed.

Motion: Napientek

Second: Salmon

III. Guest Speaker: Thomas Hammock, newly hired Head Football Coach: Coach Hammock is a former Huskie with an impressive educational and coaching resume. He expressed his three guiding principles of coaching: academic success, ethical living and winning football games. He sees NIU winning and winning big. He said he knows his players and now he is learning his way around the university. The Council asked how they could help improve game attendance. Hammock cited 2003-2007 as a high attendance period but then enrollment was 21,000. To increase attendance, NIU needs to increase enrollment as well as community outreach and *winning games*. He plans to win big and predicts it is going to be an exciting ride.

IV. Announcements:

a.) STEM Café July 10, Fatty's: Managing Health

STEM Café August 13, Open Range Southwest Grill, Stargazing (Perseid meteor shower) and more! Dymond said this is a popular event and she recommended getting there early to get something to eat and a good seat.

b.) Orientation has started. If you see people who look lost, be helpful. If you see people with a lanyard who look lost, be helpful.

c.) Summer Open House. July 10. Keep that in mind as another day there will be increased activity on campus.

d.) Parking permits are available for purchase on line. Purchase by July 1. You can use your new pass immediately, but do not display both permits.

V. Committee Reports:

Advocacy: No report.

Awards: No report.

Communications & Technology: No report.

Constitution & Elections: Doederlein reported that the Council has 29 positions to fill. Ninety-seven nominations were received. Fifty-six declined (most because they are transitioning to operating staff); 19 have not responded and 22 have accepted.

Doederlein suggested holding the election so that we have a sense of who will be voting members and who will be alternates, and to maintain legitimacy.

Doederlein proposed offering the opportunity for people to write-in candidates, allowing the candidate right of refusal. Doederlein also suggested for the future that the Council amend the Constitution so that elected alternates are not associated with a specific division.

Division 1 needs 3 reps and 4 alts (one nominee/no acceptance)

Division 2 needs 6 reps and 6 alts (11 candidates, 12 with one pending)

Division 3 needs 1 rep and 1 alt (5 candidates)

Division 4 needs 3 alts (1 candidate)

Division 5 needs 2 reps and 4 alts (5 candidates)

Division 6 needs 2 alts (1 candidate)

Doederlein reported the Council has 29 vacancies and 22 candidates. Twelve reps and 17 alternates are needed; additional candidates are needed.

Doederlein asked members to be sure to thank Jon Ostenburg if you know him or see him, for all his good work on our election process.

Events: No report.

Professional Development: No report.

Regional Community Relations: No report.

SPS Dependent Scholarship Fund: No report.

VI. Vice President's Report: The VP Summary Report was passed around and posted on SharePoint.

VII. Unfinished Business:

a.) Search Committee Update: Newly hired General Counsel, Bryan Perry, is now on campus.

b.) SUCSS Procedure Update: Doederlein reported there are 262 positions in the HR que for consideration. The number went back up due to re-appointments coming due July 1. HR has also identified more positions older than three years needing review. If you have questions, contact HR directly. Doederlein has not received the final write up on the Audit and does not know what the final numbers are. In 2012 there were approximately 900 SPS employees, as of November 2018 there were 711 and currently there are fewer than 600. SPS positions are expected to go down below 500.

c.) 125th Birthday Committee Update: Michael Adzovic volunteered to replace retiring Jack King on this committee. Kazmierczak moved to accept Adzovic, seconded by Ballard. All were in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. The motion passed. Michael Adzovic will serve on the 125th Anniversary Committee.

VIII. New Business: The Board of Trustees is meeting today. They approved a 3% pay increase for non-represented staff and approved changes to the tuition waiver regulations that would measure permitted hours by the year vs by term. Twenty hours per year may be subject to tuition waiver. Also, the University will be picking up differential waiver costs, more details to follow.

Doederlein reported that Kendall Thu, the newly elected Faculty Senate Chair and Executive Director of University Council, met with Catherine and Holly to learn what is important to the Councils.

Doederlein brought forth the amended agenda item asking if anyone is interested in serving on the Student Fees Committee beginning this summer. Peter Olson volunteered, Kazmierczak moved to approve Olson; Sutcliffe seconded. All were in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. The motion passed. Peter Olson will serve on the Student Fees Committee.

Doederlein expressed her thanks and appreciation to those members who have contributed their time and energy to the SPS Council: Jeff Salmon, Randi Napientek and Mark Pietrowski have continued to attend meetings and serve on committees even while being transitioned to Civil Service. Doederlein expressed that the Council hugely appreciates their tireless work on behalf of the SPS and NIU.

Doederlein reminded everyone that next month the Council will be electing officers: Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The VP and Secretary positions are currently vacant and the Treasurer position is currently held by Felicia Bohannon.

IX. Adjournment: Doederlein asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Napientek

Second: King and Salmon

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

The meeting Adjourned at 11:14 a.m.