Supportive Professional Staff Council Agenda  
Thursday, October 12, 2017  
HSC Clara Sperling Sky Room  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Present: Adzovic, Arnold, Bredberg, Bridges, Builta, Carlisle, Devereaux, Dossier, Foelske, Franklin, Johnson, Lopez, Love-Moore, McCall, Miller, Myles, Napientek, Pietrowski, Reid, Sutcliffe, Walk, Watson

Excused: Boughton, Dymond, Hochstatter, Meyer, Rogers-Tryba, Xidis

Guests: Andree, Click, Klaper, Mitchell, Saborio

Call to Order: President Doederlein called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Doederlein asked for a motion to approve the Amended Agenda. The amendment was to add Huskie Hack and Undocumented Ally Training announcements f.) and g.). Bredberg motioned, seconded by Love-Moore. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. The Amended Agenda was approved.

Doederlein asked for a motion to approve the September 14, 2017 Minutes. Sutcliffe motioned, seconded by Napientek, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. The Minutes were approved.

Guest Speaker: Matt Streb – Chief of Staff, President’s Office

Streb presented updates on the Presidential Search, the Budget, Salary Increment, VP Administration and Finance and General Counsel Search. (Doederlein shared our questions for him in advance which are in your inboxes.)

1.) Presidential search. Board decided to wait until Fall 2018 before beginning search. Hopefully someone will be in place Spring 2019. Open search. Everyone will have a chance to give input. Spring 2018 we will be assembling a search process planning committee. They will review the job and our institutional description. (This is not the actual Search Committee) Trustees Coleman and Barsema very much appreciated your input and did hear very clearly that the process needs to be open.

2.) Budget update. Streb explained that the Budget is the big challenge. NIU has taken serious budget cuts and enrollment is down. There are a lot of buildings that need work. The good news is there are good things happening at NIU: Holmes Student Center upgrades; new student recruitment strategies; and new dining strategies that have the potential of significantly increasing revenue. See also: http://myniu.com/research-leader/ about the Brookings Institution study.

3.) Salary Increments. See document Cathy sent via email.

4.) VP of Administration and Finance. Streb reported that we are in the last stages of that search and they hope to announce a candidate in the next week or so.

5.) Search for permanent General Counsel. We are not using a search firm and it will not be a Vice President position.

Announcements:

a.) STEM Café, October 17, Neutrinos: Ghostly Particles That Could be the Key to the Universe
b.) STEMFest, October 21
c.) Flu Shots – October 26, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, HSC Regency Room
e.) Hurricane Relief Efforts (College of Education; Blood Drives, etc.) Please let Catherine know of any specific activities to help hurricane victims. The College of Education has done some outreach. Keep your eye out for any others.
f.) Huskie Hack. https://www.niutoday.info/tag/huskie-hack/ This is a 24 hour event involving students from all over—in state and out of state. Contact Tracy Rogers-Tryba who works with Hacks.
g.) Undocumented Ally training, Tuesday, November 22nd 8:00 a.m. to Noon - Contact Sandy Lopez
   https://niu.campuslabs.com/engage/event/1078331  (Free food)

**Committee Reports:**
- **Awards** – no report
- **Communications & Technology** – report
  Walk reported they are in the process of reworking the SPSC website.
- **Constitution & Elections** – report
  The Committee needs to audit positions open on committees around campus and fill those vacancies. The Grievance Panel still needs members.

Student Fee Committee. A new committee to review student fees at the university. **Jeff Salmon** was elected by show of hands.

General Counsel Search Committee. **Shannon Stoker** was elected by show of hands.

**Events** – report
  Dinner social at Fanatico’s was a small group but a fun night.
  **Upcoming:**
  - Lunch & Learn TBD
  - Lunch and Laugh, **Thursday, November 9** after council meeting. Board games down in the Blackhawk.
  - Potluck and Baseball game, **Wednesday, December 6**, 11-1 p.m.
  - Holiday Social. **Tuesday, December 19** from 3-5 pm in Cole Hall Atrium (Dec 18 backup date)

**Professional Development** – report
  October 20 meeting to conduct an audit of opportunities across campus.

**Regional Community Relations** – no report

**SPS Dependent Scholarship Fund** – report
  Bredberg reported $5868 in fund. The Committee met September 27th and talked about ways to increase fund and publicize our work. They are reaching out to the Foundation for help with increasing awareness.

**Advocacy (formerly Workplace Issues)** – report.
  SPS Council final survey report was sent to Council members’ email. Doederlein will then distribute it to the Administration.

  Doederlein asked for a Motion to approve the Survey. Napientek motioned, seconded by Walk. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. The Survey was approved.

  Other things discussed were the SPS Handbook and the educational benefit for SPS. Additional pay for SPS and whether they are able to teach, etc.

**Vice-President’s Report**
a.) Committee’s Summary Report. Napientek reported not a lot of responses. **We need to nudge people on committees to report.**

**Unfinished Business**
a.) SPS Compensation/Degree/Certification Policy – No Update
b.) SPS Handbook – Table of Contents posted to web (Advocacy)
c.) Search Committee Updates (General Counsel Search)
d.) Staff Retreat Follow-up: Doederlein is reaching out to Katy and Abigail about coming back for further updates.
e.) Green Team Follow-up to resolution. Electronically vote to Cathy about whether you approve it. Faculty Senate, University Council and Student Association have adopted the Resolution.
No New Business

Barb Andree, President of the Operating Staff Council reported that the OSC has submitted a letter to NIU leadership and the leadership of the thirteen unions on campus urging everybody to get together to find a solution to the problem of a large segment of operating staff who are excluded from the 3% increment.

Barb also reported that the Council of Councils 20th anniversary Conference is being held at NIU October 19th and 20th to share ideas and network. They are also in the planning stages of having another bowling night in January. She invited SPS members to join in. The cost is $5 to do all the bowling or billiards you like.

University Committee Reports

Board of Trustees – 10/19/2017 (special meeting); 12/7/2017 (regular meeting)
Board of Trustees Committees – 11/16/2017
University Council – 11/8/2017
Operating Staff Council – 11/2/2017
Faculty Senate – 11/1/2017

Mark moved to adjourn. Erin seconded.

Adjournment

Representatives: Please contact your alternate and the SPS Council Secretary, Linda Watson, if you are unable to attend the meeting. Alternates: You are invited to attend all meetings.