

University Support Staff Senate Meeting

November 12, 2014

Present – Matt Albers, Sherry Alexander, Denecia Angleton, Connie Basquez, Johny Buchanan-Spacheck, Bryan Carter, Christina Clarkson, Shaleah Fields, Renea Goforth, Christina Gregory, Matt Houston, Addie James, Shelly Kellogg, Ali Levine, Shirley Lewis, Angela Linder, Sheryl McKelvey, Robbie Norton, Stacy Salters, Randy Sessions, & Micah Thompson.

Excused absent – Walter Mayne, Carrie Wyatt, & Michelle White.

Unexcused absent – Brenda Achey, Michael Hinkle, Anton Hubl, Amy McClintock, George Schroeder & Angie Tucker, Connie Wells & Jennifer Williams.

Guests – Melissa Conley, Maria Lucas & Kelly Vickers

I. **President Bardo update**

- Vacation leave issue was taken to the Regents & it's now with the Council of Presidents. They are proposing that since the classified staff changed status to university support staff that all laws need to reflect the change in authority to the Universities & this would give each University the ability to work with university support staff to update the leave policy.
- A question was asked about WSU becoming a car free campus. Bardo hadn't heard about that but thinks it's an interesting idea. He wants to increase safety by utilizing perimeter parking. This would mean that the "Loop Road" becomes the boundary between parking & primary functions of the University. There will be exceptions like a potential parking garage. Also, there's a reasonable expectation of increasing attendance next year which may require an additional residence hall to be built. Over the next 10 year, he can see all parking being outside the loop road except for handicap parking.
- A question was asked about the future of the police department, Campus Credit Union & the old physical plant building. Bardo indicated that the police department will probably move toward 17th street at the same time a new parking garage is built. The Credit Union will probably move to one of commercial buildings coming to campus to be with all the other service businesses. *None of these moves are imminent but this area is prime real estate for the campus in the future.*
- There are a number of programs that could be expanded if they were relocated to areas with more room, e.g., the physical therapy program, center for management & development.
- A question was asked about how the Innovation Campus can apply to other departments like fine arts. Bardo mentioned that Royse Smith is a wealth of knowledge regarding how the innovation campus can apply to all areas. Bardo would like to become the Innovation University rather than just an Innovation campus. To that end, he see an Innovation Center at McKnight, the plans for the future expansion onto Braeburn call for the water hazard to be turned into a lake where concerts can be held by fine arts students & he is working with a company to bring in a medical simulation center. There isn't an area of campus that can't be involved without a little imagination.
- A question was asked about his vision for bridging the gap between the University & the surrounding neighborhoods. Bardo says that the University can't do it all & will need the assistance of the surrounding community. WSU can't do all things for them but can assist them do the things they need. A "maker's space" would be an area where someone from the community can come in & get involved in developing the idea, creating it, marketing it, etc. Perhaps the relationship formed with this person will also develop into a future student. A proposal is out to allow the "maker's space" free to low income individuals. Maria Lucas asked if

he has contacted the TRIO program & he has. This space will be a part of the first building of Innovation Campus.

- A question was asked about the future of our education budget. Bardo says that he made plans to hold money in case the state cuts our budget. If it isn't cut then he will release it to continue with building programs. Renea asked about the future of the university remaining a state campus if all state funding is gone. Bardo ensured her that funding doesn't impact the university remaining a state agency. So long as we are charter by the state & the governor or the legislature appoints our governing board then we are a state agency. We are moving to being a publically controlled private university & we will have to, over time, work to fix the problem of no funding from the state but being told what we have to do. One way is to look at a different way to do tuition & fees in an entirely different way, like program tuition which means that programs that cost more to provide will cost more in tuition & fees. We are also looking at moving toward a market base tuition, e.g., a teacher recertification tuition at a lower rate to be more affordable, or a state-based tuition schedule that would create a tuition rate equal to another state's in-state tuition to encourage a student to come here since it would be the same cost for them.
- A question was asked about the plans for future raises. Without knowing anything further about what the state does with the budget, Bardo is planning for a 2% raise for all employees next year.
- Bardo would like to eliminate the extra paperwork & signatures required to hire an employee.
- A comment was made about the increased involvement with veterans & asked if that would continue. Bardo indicated that he plans to further increase our activity with the veterans & the military. He would also like to extend benefits to the spouses as much as he is legally able.

II. Matt Conklin, SGA President, update

- Student senate has passed a resolution in support of the option to move to a tobacco-free campus. A \$25,000 grant has been submitted to help fund programing, education, out-reach, research & consultation. The end goal is to see what works best for Wichita State.

III. Approve October minutes

- Motion to approve.

IV. Senate Vote: USSC report to KBOR or COPs

- USS can only report to one entity, KBOR or the Council of (University) Presidents (COPs). It's recommended by the legislative liaisons that we report to COPs who will take our concerns to KBOR. COPs has more power with KBOR than we do.
- Shelly Kellogg made a motion that the USSC report to COPs. Randy Sessions (and others) seconded the motion. All senators were in favor & none opposed. Motion passed.

V. Steering Committee

- 5 of our member's terms are expiring this year. We need replacements. This sis the committee that meets to try to eliminate any grievances. Matt Albers, Denecia Angleton, Christina Clarkson, Brenda Achey & Bryan Carter.

VI. Quick Updates

- **Performance Management/Review Software** – it's in the final stages & will begin pilot studies in the next few weeks.

- **CBIZ** – Randy, Bryan & Ali met with the consultant who said all universities have signed with them except K-State. HR will hire a temporary position to help. Randy Sessions is part of the hiring committee. It was recommended that information about CBIZ be sent out to all constituents again to inform them of this company & its purpose.

VII. Committee Reports *(no committee updates)*

- **Alternative Service Committee** (Randy Sessions, Stacy Salters, Renea Goforth, Angie Linder)
- **Community Service** (Darryl Carrington, Renea Goforth, Connie Wells)
- **Constitution** (Renea Goforth, Stacy Salters, Randy Sessions, George Schroeder)
- **Elections** (Ali Levine, Shelly Kellogg)
- **Heskett Center Board** (Shirley Lewis)
- **Library Appeals** (Shelly Kellogg, Amy McClintock)
- **Newsletter** (Sheryl McKelvey, Robbie Norton)
- **Ombudsperson** (Sheryl McKelvey, Johny Buchanan Spachek and Matt Houston)
- **Position Paper** (Renea Goforth, Ali Levine)
- **RSC Board** (Mike Hinkle)
- **Shocker Pride** (Connie Wells, Robbie Norton)
- **Shocker Scholarship** (Connie Basquez, Johny Buchanan-Spachek, Carrie Wyatt)
- **Traffic Appeals** (Bryan Carter, Randy Sessions Robbie Norton,)
- **Tuition** (Connie Basquez, Bryan Carter, Matt Houston)
- **Welcoming** (Angie Linder, Connie Wells)
- **Wellness** (Micah Thompson)

VIII. As May Arise

- Shelly Kellogg wanted to remind everyone of the deadlines for employee spouse tuition assistance, December 1, & employee tuition assistance, December 12.
- Maria Lucas wanted everyone to be aware that grant-funded employees are not included in the \$250.00 bonus in December.
 - UPDATE: Since the meeting, Maria found out that this is incorrect & grant-funded employees are included.
- Robby Norton motioned to adjourn. Randy Sessions seconded the motion. Motion passed.