

1-23-2009

Staff Council Meeting : 2009 : 01 : 23

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USF St. Petersburg
STAFF Council – General Meeting
DAV 130
JAN 23, 2009

Present: Lori Anderson, Stephen Bilick, Allison Etzel, Jean Ferguson, Harriett Fletcher, Annette Hamon, Teri Hawkins, Barbra Higel, Michele Holton, Merle Howard, Anne Killenberg, Itzel Lanuza, Tanya Radabaugh, Susan Ryan, Zeynep Tufekci, Jennifer Walker, Michael Williams, and Jennifer Woroner.

Guest(s): Dr. Margaret Sullivan, USFSP Interim Regional Chancellor; William McClelland, President AFSCME Local 3342; Jerry Harenza, Staff Representative AFSCME Local 3342.

Call to Order: Michael called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Meet and Greet: Merle Howard, Admissions & Records; Allison Etzel, Library.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Margaret Sullivan, USFSP Interim Regional Chancellor

- **Economic Challenges**
 - Even though USFSP is a good university, fabulous location, a full Resident Housing dorm, excellent faculty and employee camaraderie - we are in difficult economic times.
 - Her challenge for the next two (2) years is to be fair in the following categories: a one-time tuition hike (possibly up to 15%), seek new funds and save positions.
 - Academic positions have been lost due to economic salary differences between Florida and other states.
 - The current issue is not employee raises, but maintaining current positions. It is not fair, not equitable, but that is where we are at this time period. Fair or not fair does not make a difference – reality is the factor. We as individuals should look out for ourselves.
 - Issues or concerns will be handled in a confidential manner by Dr. Sullivan.
 - The new theme is to invest in yourself; have multiple skills in multiple areas.
- **SACS**
 - SACS material is due in April with a team arriving in May to assess students. An additional full review is scheduled for 2010-2011.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 11/21/2008 meeting as posted met with no objections.

Reports:

President:

- **Chick-Fil-A:** Grand opening was successful. The new hours of operation: 10am-6pm Monday through Thursday; 10am-2pm Friday.
- **Duplicate emails:**
 - Michael will attempt to limit the number of duplicate USFSP informational emails being sent from Staff Council.
 - Confirm your email address in order to receive Council updates.
- **Employee of the Month:** Congratulations to the December EOM winners:
 - Terri Hawkins, College of Arts & Sciences
 - Venius Morrison, Operations & Maintenance of Facilities

Liaison to Councils: Barbara Fleischer

- **A&P Council** - No meeting in December. The next meeting is scheduled for 1/28/09. She will report to us next month.
- **Employee of the Month** - No nominations for the month of January have been submitted. The nomination deadline is Tuesday, 1/27/09.

New Business:

• Union Update

- Michael will join the Union Negotiations Team. This is the first time that someone from USFSP has become a member of this team.
- The next phase of bargaining is to begin shortly. The Union would like to present something which reflects our concerns and will therefore reopen three articles which are areas of employee concerns. The Union is reaching out to employees for their input for the negotiations.
- Contact Michael or William McClelland (nadine3cedars@yahoo.com) or the Union (www.AFSCME.ourusf.org) with ideas or proposals regarding these employee concerns. Deadline date for submittal is February 4, 2009.
- The Union is working diligently to have some of the negotiation meetings scheduled at USFSP.
- Since negotiations began three years ago, employees have lost 13-1/2% cost of living. We cannot continue this economic slide during the recovery time period.
- The Council has suggested a lawyer or contract specialist be added to the Union Negotiating Team.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:00AM