Staff Council Minutes
December 13, 2006

Members present: Lynn Bailey, Dee Barker, Wanda Hinton, Jennifer Mill, Becky Shaffer, Val VanDerSluis (Chair), Lori Spurgeon, Kelli Clevenger (Vice Chair), Jessie Smith (Secretary), Vicki Baer, Joyce Hutchins, Pam Gordon, and Angela Horn.

Val VanDerSluis called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in MO 204. Val announced that special guests, Donna LaLonde and Nancy Tate, were going to present some information regarding the HLC Accreditation process. Upon completion of the presentation, Chris Leach discussed the wellness reimbursement process and explained the difficulties of the process.

HLC Accreditation Presentation

Donna LaLonde and Nancy Tate made a presentation to the staff council about the process of and criteria needed for Accreditation. A brochure will be made available to faculty and staff that will discuss the Washburn University Self Study and the Accreditation criteria. There are 5 criteria that need to be looked at for the Self Study, all of which include core components. The Self Study Steering committee will be soliciting feedback on how to get faculty and staff familiar with the Washburn University mission statement and they would also like to see how departmental mission statements tie in with making the Washburn University mission successful. They will be requesting this feedback between now and December of 2007.

Wellness Reimbursements

Due to IRS issues, the wellness reimbursements are being distributed in a different way than was originally planned. Since taxes need to be taken out of these payments, Washburn University has increased the amount of the reimbursement so that the net will result in approximately $75 and will be shown on the December paychecks. For those that elected to have this go towards their Wellness Center gym membership, an increase for tax purposes is not necessary since this does not have a tax consequence.

Reports

From the President:

Val VanDerSluis reported that she did meet with Dr. Farley. The proposed relationship with Kaw Area Technical School is still being considered. The outlook regarding the budget for this upcoming year will be challenging, due to the Goodyear Strike, no increase in enrollment (we've hit a plateau, however this is not bad news, and there is no decrease in enrollment foreseen). It is likely that Washburn will have to rely more on state money, however, there is no need to worry about budgetary issues at the moment.
Corporate Volunteer:

No Report at the meeting, however Lori Rognlie reported later that WU hosted the Operation Clean Sweep Luncheon. Let's Help, Doorstep, Salvation Army, Breakthrough House, Women's Recovery Center, Battered Women's Task Force, Florence Crittenton Services and Cornerstone were invited to the luncheon and all the toiletries that had been collected were distributed. Each agency received 3 boxes. Lori said she plans to begin collecting toiletries again in January for next year's Operation Clean Sweep.

Benefits:

The committee won't meet until January 24, 2007.

Old Business

None

New Business

Becky Shaffer discussed that the Risk Management & Safety Office has received some complaints/comments regarding smoking on campus. The Office is going to be soliciting for comments/feedback regarding the current policy on campus. You can email any comments/feedback to safety@washburn.edu.

Announcements

None

The next meeting will be January 10, 2007 at 3pm in Morgan 204.

Meeting adjourned.