

STAFF ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, January 11, 2006

MINUTES

Members in Attendance: Barbara Adelman, Pat Ambrose, Tammeka Banks, Susan Beadling, Theresa Benedek, Iruaku Brodie-Mends, Patrick Connolly, Janet Coulter, M. Linda Gangewere, Olivia Gilbert, Jasmine Hoffman, Michael Laughlin, Jim Lyle, Babs Mowery, Ann Ostroski, Martania Penn, Angie Peskie, Kara Richardson, Fred Schiffer, Joyce Selden, Paula Templer, Barbara Zischkau, Steve Zupcic

Members Excused: Michele Aldrich, Marissa Arlet, Diane Bates, Joe Brun, Rich Colwell, Dana DiVirgilio-Thomas, Karma Edwards, Wendy Frank, Carol Hodgkiss, Betty Homonai, Lynne Johnson, Anne Kisak, Peggy McNeil, Fran Povlick, Rachel Roebuck, Bobbi Jo Rosol, Danielle Schoch, Michael Shriane, Denise Thrower, Lauren Wally, Tom Waters

Absent: Joan Cutone, Marilyn DiPaolo, Kristofer Fertig, Jodi Gigler-Seinera, Denise Goppman, Katie London, Heather Murphy, Carol Neuner, Patty Smith

Guests: Peter Hart
University Times

Officer Ron Bennett
University of Pittsburgh Police

Closed Session: 12:00 PM

Open Session: 12:15 PM

Approval of Minutes

- Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the December 14, 2005 meeting were approved and accepted.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President – Rich Colwell

- Rich was out of town attending a training session for his department.

Vice President of Steering – Gwen Watkins

- The SAC Bylaws state that the SAC meeting are to be held the second Wednesday of each calendar month. At times, the SAC meeting date conflicts with meetings held by SAC committees. To provide flexibility, SAC officers would like to have the SAC Bylaws reworded to say that the meeting would be held one Wednesday in a calendar month. Due to a lack of members being in attendance at the January 11, there was no quorum. Steve Zupcic made a motion to put the proposal up for a vote via email to all SAC members. The Bylaw change was approved by the SAC members in attendance at the meeting pending the results of the on-line vote.
- Kurt Lorence, staff member in Computer Services and Systems Development, was thanked and presented a small token of appreciation for his assistance in redesigning the SAC Newsletter.
- The Marketing and Communications Committee was thanked by Gwen Watkins for the professional look of the SAC Newsletter.

Vice President for Marketing and Communications – Angie Peskie

- The SAC Newsletter was distributed in a timely manner. Angie stated that she hoped those who did not receive the last edition of the Newsletter received this edition. Extra copies are available in the SAC Office.
- Angie wished everyone Happy New Year.
- Angie will be attending an Admissions and Financial Aid meeting in February. On Monday, January 10, 2006, Angie attended a UPBC Provost's Strategic Planning meeting. The meeting is held each year for new UPBC members and shows how the University develops its budget.
- A thank you letter was received from Amy Osborn, one of the recipients of the SAC Endowed Book Fund.

Treasurer's Report – Carol Hodgkiss

- Carol was unable to attend the meeting. No report was given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Benefits – Steve Zupcic

- The Benefits Committee has produced a recommendation for the delivery of prescriptions from Falk Pharmacy to University offices. The proposal is almost parallel to the delivery of prescriptions from Falk Pharmacy to UPMC offices. The proposal was approved by

the Steering Committee at the January meeting. Due to a lack of a quorum at the SAC meeting, the proposal will be sent via email to all SAC members requesting a vote. Members in attendance at the meeting approved the proposal pending an on-line vote.

- Two members of the SAC Benefits Committee have been invited by Mr. Ron Frisch, Human Resources, to participate on the Medical Advisory Board.
- A meeting of the Benefits Committee will be held the end of January to begin discussion on staff compensation packages.

Elections Committee – Betty Homonai

- Eight new member applications have been received by the Elections Committee. The committee has set the end of January as the deadline to apply.

Governance Committee – Denise Thrower

- Denise was unable to attend the meeting due to her husband being ill. No report was given.

Grievance Committee – Carol Hodgkiss

- There were no grievances to report at this time.

Marketing and Communications Committee – Kara Richardson

- The Marketing and Communications report was combined with the report from the Vice President of Marketing and Communications.

Program and Planning Committee – Bobbi Jo Rosol

- The annual Pitt Kennywood Day will be held either the end of June or the beginning of July. Further information is forthcoming.
- The Program and Planning Committee is in the process of planning a SAC Spring Assembly. Suggestions and recommendations may be emailed to Gwen Watkins or Bobbi Jo Rosol.
- Program and Planning is investigating a second trip to New York City which would include a choice of two plays. Further information will be provided in the near future. In addition, the committee would like to hold a fashion show in the fall. Proceeds from both events would be placed in the SAC Endowed Book Fund.
- The American Heart Association has designated the month of February as Go Red for Women month. The focus is to educate women about risk factors, warning signs and health initiatives related to cardiac health. Packets were distributed to members

containing red pins and red bracelets to sell. The proceeds from the sale of the pins and bracelets will go to the American Heart Association.

Research and Information Committee - Ann Ostroski

- A handout explaining how the work of the Research and Information Committee is divided when preparing the annual report was distributed to SAC members. Officers, Steering members, Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, the SAC Secretary and SAC members will be responsible in conjunction with the Research and Information Committee members for providing appropriate information for the FY 06 annual report.

Safety and Security Committee –Brittany Guthrie

- The Safety and Security Committee has received an overwhelming response to the Safety Questionnaire. In the coming months, the committee will analyze the information and make recommendations to the appropriate persons. A final report will be presented upon completion of the analysis.
- Gwen thanked the Safety and Security Committee for all the work they have done in providing pertinent safety information to the SAC members.

Salary and Job Classification Committee – Bobbi Jo Rosol

- Bobbi Jo was unable to attend the meeting. No report was given.

Regional Campus Reports

- No reports were received from the Regional Campuses.

Other Reports

- Officer Ron Bennett of the University of Pittsburgh Police discussed the Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program. This is a program of self-defense for women offered by the University of Pittsburgh Police. The program has been available for approximately one year. It is a way of defending yourself safely against attack without learning martial arts. The 12-hour program, usually over three sessions, is free to Pitt employees, and the hours are flexible. The only restriction is at least six people need to sign-up for a class. The maximum number for a class is 12. Further information is available on the University of Pittsburgh Police website www.pitt.edu/~police/rad.

Old Business

- No old business was reported.

New Business

- No new business was reported.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Future Meeting

- The next meeting of the Staff Association Council is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2006 in Room 532 Alumni Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Peskie
Vice President for Marketing and Communications