

**STAFF ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, January 16, 2008**

**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance:** Colleen Abt, Marissa Arlet, Lynne Johnson-Christy, Annabelle Clippinger, Angela Coldren, Rich Colwell, Janet Coulter, Christine Crawford, Marilyn DiPaolo, Ken Doty, Jonah Yan McAllister-Erickson, Rick Fabean, Libby Hilf, Gloria Limetti, Iruaku Brodie-Mends, Barbara McMullen, Babs Mowery, Martania Penn, Benjamin Pilcher, Anna Sangl, Fred Schiffer, Michael Semcheski, Sherry Viann Shrum, Anita Sorrells, Tom Waters, Kathryn Trent, Gwen Watkins, Tom Waters, Jennifer Welton, Dewi Wong, Steve Zupcic

**Members Excused:** Barbara Adelman, Tammeka Banks, Theresa Benedek, Mary Ellen Carey, Alisha Shane-Cuniff, Mary Fisher, Carol Hodgkiss, Betty Homonai, Beth LaRotonda, Mike Laughlin, Monika Losagio, Jim Lyle, Peggy McNeil, Maggie Mrozinski, Michelle Page, Elaine Springel, Kathy Stell, Dana DiVirgilio-Thomas, Crystal McCormick-Ware, Pamela Weid, Janice Welch, Rose Wooten, Barbara Zischkau

**Members Unexcused:** Patti Chioda, Denise Goppman, Bill Heller, Marsha Lee, Danielle Colbert-Lewis, Bobbi Jo Rosol

**Closed Session:** 12:00 PM

**Open Session:** 12:15 PM

**Officers' Reports**

**President - Rich Colwell**

- No new policies or procedures were reported for the month of December.
- Rich wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- Rich had nothing new to report at this time.

**Vice President of Steering - Gwendolyn Watkins**

- Due to the holiday the Steering Committee did not meet in December 2007. The next meeting of the SAC Steering Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 23, 2008.
- Jennifer Welton has agreed to chair the SAC Research and Information Committee.

### **Vice President for Marketing and Communications - Angela Coldren**

- Angie reported on several meetings she had attended which included the SAC Book Fund Committee, Chancellor's Award for Staff Excellence, Senate Expansion Executive Committee Luncheon and Staff Recognition Ceremony.
- The Marketing and Communications Committee is working on the winter edition of the SAC Newsletter.
- Nine staff members of the University have been accepted for membership to SAC. They are: Rick Fabean, Mary Fisher, Beth LaRotonda, Jonah Yan Erickson-McAllister, Peggy McNeil, Michelle Page, Elaine Springel, Crystal McCormick-Ware and Rose Wooten.

### **Treasurer – Carol Hodgkiss**

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

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Benefits - Steve Zupcic/Sherry Viann Shrum**

- A meeting of the Benefits Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2008.
- Due to additional job obligations, Kathryn Trent stepped down as Co-Chair of the Benefits Committee. Sherry Viann Shrum was nominated and affirmed as the new Co-Chair of the Benefits Committee.
- The proposal on previous guidelines on involuntary separation from the University with reinstatement of benefits after 12 months rather than after 6 months was voted on by the Benefits Committee and approved. The proposal will now be referred to the Steering Committee for approval.
- A Benefits subcommittee will work with Human Resources on a customer satisfaction survey. SAC will not be creating the survey but will ask Human Resources to initiate a customer satisfaction survey of benefits of University of Pittsburgh staff.

- Steve said it was brought to his attention that the Benefits Committee should look into flex-time scheduling at the University. At the present time some individual departments authorize flex-time for all or some of their staff. University policies are in place that allow flex-time at the discretion of the supervisor. SAC would like flex-time to be more encouraged. Flex-time has become more important due to the Boulevard of the Allies construction project which makes it very difficult to commute both south and west of Oakland. A brief discussion followed.

#### **Elections - Betty Homonai/Jennifer Welton**

- A new member orientation luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2008.

#### **Governance – Dana DiVirgilo-Thomas**

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

#### **Grievance - Carol Hodgkiss/Rich Colwell**

- No grievances were reported.

#### **Marketing and Communications - Anita Sorrells**

- The Marketing and Communications Committee did not meet in December 2007. The committee had nothing new to report.

#### **Program and Planning - Anna Sangl/Gwen Watkins**

- SAC's Program and Planning Committee holiday blanket drive was very successful. One hundred seventy blankets were donated to the Lemington Community Services for distribution to the elderly in the community.
- The next meeting of the Program and Planning Committee will be Thursday, January 31, 2008 in the SAC Office (313 Bellefield Hall). The committee will begin discussion on the Spring Assembly which is scheduled for April 9, 2008 in the Assembly Room of the William Pitt Union.

#### **Research and Information – Jennifer Welton**

- A meeting of the Research and Information Committee has not been held. Jennifer said to please contact her if you are interested in participating on the Research and Information Committee.

### **Safety and Security - Fred Schiffer/Rich Colwell**

- A meeting of the SAC Safety and Security Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 31, 2008 in Room 634 Benedum Hall.

### **Salary and Job Classification - Pam Weid/Barbara Adelman**

- A meeting of the Salary and Job Classification Committee is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2008 at 12 noon in Room 313 Bellefield Hall.

### **Regional Reports**

- No regional reports were received.

### **Other Reports**

- No other reports were given.

### **Old Business**

- No old business was reported.

### **New Business**

- No new business was reported.

### **Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.

### **Future Meeting**

- The next meeting of the Staff Association Council will be held on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 in 532 Alumni Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Coldren  
Vice President for Marketing and Communications