

Winthrop University
Staff Conference Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2018
Dina's Place

Staff Assembly Present: Becky Best, Nicole Chisari, Penny Cotter, Maria D'Agostino, Julia Fockler, Amanda Hackney, Wes Love, Kelly McGinnis, Kirk McSwain, Alicia Marstall, Jackie Concodora, Susan Sauvigne, Daphne Sears, Lori Tuttle

Absent: Kaye Burks

Staff in attendance: Approximately 60

Meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Maria D'Agostino, Chair

February meeting minutes were approved.

President Mahony then gave an update regarding state funds requested. The request is still pending, we have asked for \$3.3 million for non-recurring dollars for delayed maintenance. This still has to be approved by the Senate.

President Mahony answered questions submitted by staff:

1. A question was submitted about merit and/or cost of living raises and when Winthrop would start giving them. The tuition increase for the upcoming year will pay for the increase in retirement and health insurance premiums for F/S. Once enrollment increases, these types of raises would come. Competitive Compensation Committee is still an active working committee. The President mentioned that the West Center memberships being free for F/S was researched, but with the new tax law, it would be a taxable benefit, which would make our personal taxes increase.
2. Are some departments on campus working summer hours all year and what is the justification for this? He stated that no department is working summer hours all year and that some departments do work different hours. These hours are set as what is best for that department and for the university.
3. Chief Scoggins answered the next question pertaining to F/S parking in visitor's spots repeatedly. This is against our parking rules and he has forwarded this information to the parking enforcement patrols. Even parking there for a minute to run something into Tillman is illegal.
4. What is WU's role in Knowledge Park and who from the University is working with the developers? The President is on this committee. He stated that at this time, student housing is being looked into (which will not be owned by WU, but we would have some sort of agreement with owner for our students), a pedestrian bridge and a bike trail to make the downtown accessible to our students, F/S. There are eight working committees on this project. If you are interested in joining one, please check out the Knowledge Park website for more information.
5. Nicole Chisari answered the question regarding the checking out of equipment from ITC located in the College of Education. You can no longer do this, where can this be done on campus? Joyce Camp in ITC advised that persons could explore equipment in their space. TLC has classes on how to use certain items but there has not been much demand for this. You can reach out to her. In addition, Jamilyn Larsen in the creative space said that equipment could be used in their area or checked out for use. Proper training is needed for some equipment to be checked out.
6. How much did the rebranding cost and why was it needed? The cost is hard to answer but we spent \$150,000. What makes it hard is that some of the work was done on campus. This is a

one-time expenditure and it will last 15-20 years. Funds from the operating budget were not used. The change was needed because there were numerous logos and multiple colors being used. We needed one uniform design and colors. We have had positive reaction to the change. The President thanked and congratulated the teams that worked on this rebranding. Nicole stated that the rebranding information is on the website at: Winthrop.edu/UCM/rebrand.

Election & Nominations Committee made a presentation on what their function is within the Staff Conference. Julia Fockler made the presentation and explained that there will be seven spots opening on Staff Conference and elections will begin in April. The newly elected persons will take their place on July 1, and their term will be for two years.

Julia personally stated that she enjoys being a member of Staff Conference. She has met people that she would not have met otherwise. It is not a large time commitment, two meetings a month and you would serve on a subcommittee as well. You can nominate a co-worker or nominate yourself for this position. If there is an opening in your department you will receive an email, also, your department will vote on their representative from their department only.

Standing Committee Reports:

Elections & Nominations – Becky introduced Daphne Sears, our newest member. Just a reminder that we will be voting on the new members before graduation.

Media & Communications –Kara reported that the next Staff Stuff would be out April 2. We have had great feedback on putting in the highlights from Staff Conference meetings. In addition, March 21, is Mismatched socks day in honor of Down’s syndrome, wear your mismatched socks, take a photo, and send them in for publication in Staff Stuff. If you do not get a copy of the Staff Stuff, please contact Kara to get your name added to the distribution list.

Professional Development – Goldie reported that the next Professional Development workshop will be held June 27 & 28 (8:30 to noon) and they are currently looking for speakers

Campus & Community Involvement – Pam reported that they are currently planning the Come See Me event (April 21 3-9 pm) and an April food drive April 6 until May 8). Volunteers are needed for Come See Me, please let Pam know if you can assist.

Staff Feedback – Kirk reported that they held their first meeting. If you are interested, please contact Kirk. They are looking for a chairperson.

Recognition Committee – Miranda announced outside on the ticket desk were postcards to fill out to show your gratitude to fellow staff members. Please fill out and she will forward them to staff.

Staff Member of the Month- we had eight nominations this month and the winner was Donald Davis from Facilities. Reminder, get those nominations in for next month by March 30.

Tina Vires then announced the “Staff Superhero of the Month”. The winner was Anna Fredericks. Please send those nominations to Tina.

Lori introduced six new hires this month.

Questions & Comments: LeeAnn Pounds announced that the email regarding the health screenings went out today (3/20) and there is a Home Buying Seminar scheduled through TLC if you are interested.

Next Staff Conference will be at Dina’s Place on Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.