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Staff Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes

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Staff Council Meeting Minutes

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Staff Council

Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2011

Members/Alternates Present: Amber Blair, Dorsey Baldwin, Lisa Bridges, Jill Forehand, Heidi Harsha, Lisa Lee, Kent Tatum, Alan Woodrum, Jody Rushing, Joan Greenlees, Bryan Hooks, Carter Walton, Pattie Beblowski, David Thompson

Advisor: Paul Michaud

Absent: Chandra Cheatham, Linda Smith, America Minc, Alan Woodrum

Approval of July minutes with the Delta Dental modification —moved to accept made by Pattie, 2nd provided by Bryan.

Old Business

The campus survey will be available electronically and in hard copy form October 17th-November 4th.

New Business

Miscellaneous

The Staff Council email address is staffcouncil@georgiasouthern.edu.

Members are asked to sign up for coverage times to work at the staff council table during the benefits fair on October 25 10am-2pm. Dorsey will bring a laptop for Tobacco Free survey participation. SGA is in support of the tobacco free survey initiative. We will explore putting an article in the George Anne. Bryan suggested exploring feedback from Housing about their tobacco free zones. We will find student groups to help us promote any policy changes if and when they occur.

We will explore establishing the staff “scholarship” as a book credit in the bookstore so no to affect TAP amounts.

The statewide staff council conference at UGA will be on October 5th and 6th. We will host this conference in 2012.

The 2012 merit ceremony will be on February 1st.

Town Hall Meeting

Tentative dates for the town hall meeting will be January 9th at 10am and January 10th at 2pm in the Nessmith-Lane assembly hall. We will discuss these times with Chandra to make sure her staff would have an opportunity to attend.

Elections

For chair-elect: Nominations include Carter and Jill

For secretary: Nominations include Heidi, Lisa L. and Lisa B.

Dorsey will email nominations to all members for election. If any members wish to decline their nominations, they need to notify her by Friday.

Member Replacements

Replacements for Jo-Lyn and Cam are forthcoming.

Committees

Members are encouraged to sign up for at least one staff council committee. We will change the committee name of "Shared Leave" to "Medical Leave." Committees should meet in the next couple of months for annual planning.

HR

Open enrollment begins October 24th. A transition of the HSA from First Southern to Heritage Bank of the South is underway because of the bank acquisition. As of October 1, 2011, direct deposit will be required of all employees. BB&T has a money account option for anyone unable to obtain a checking or savings account. A new task force to take a look at faculty and staff compensation will be convened in the near future. Twelve new policies have been approved, and HR will hold new policy sessions beginning in November. A 13th policy on provisional periods is in draft stages.

Changes to Benefits

Employees must work 30 hours per week (not 20) to qualify for benefits after December 2011. HSA will be a match not a seed, and it will be matched each month up to the single maximum (\$375) or the family maximum (\$750) rather than all up front as it has been in the past. Delta Dental will be added as a dental option; it will have less fees and a higher maximum. Hartford will replace Lincoln Financial. For new hires, benefits will begin the month after employment begins, unless an employee starts on the 1st of the month and selects their benefits on the 1st of the month. "Hire on Demand" may change its name to "Eagle Temps."

Other Business

Our group picture will be taken at the end of the October meeting. David will arrange the photographer. We will explore getting polo shirts for council members. Dorsey will send instructions on how to sign up for the staff council listserv.

Meeting adjourned, 10:55am

Professionally submitted,

Amber Blair

Staff Council Secretary