



COUNCIL ON STAFF AFFAIRS
Minutes of Tuesday, November 18, 2014

1) Call to order

a) Chair Laura Pitts called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM in the UC Rose Room.

2) Roll call: All representatives must sign/initial the attendance roster to be counted as present.

a) Members present: Beverly Amiot, Sue Bailey, Derrick Carter, Pepper Croft, Sabrina Daniels, Donnell Davis Jr., Joan Dear, Bobby Flowers, Chasity Gill, Veronica Graham, Pete Harkness*, Shanika Hezekiah, Gwen Manning, Laura Pitts, Bob Lee*, Marlene Marlow, Angela Uyeno, and Keith Warburg. Guests were: Dzigbode Limehouse (SGA), Arian Bryant (P&T), Nydrah Wright (SGA), Elizabeth Kay Cavender (SGA) and S. Adams. The following members were absent: Olivia Blakely, Denise Bogart*, Sandra Griffin, Jessica Klotz, Jonathan Klotz (Proxy-Sue Bailey), Regina Lee, Terence Sullivan, Courtney Wilkes, and James Archibald*. **Please send a proxy if you cannot attend a meeting.**

3) SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

a) Dr. McKinney shared information about the Lighting of the Palms on December 1 at 7 PM. Sweets and cider will be served and the Spotlighters will be singing. The community is invited to attend. He is also opening the Holiday Social to the community. It will be family/kid friendly. The Regents meeting in October was a huge success. People are still talking about it; thanks to all who helped make it a success. On December 1, the President is holding an open forum to talk about the budget. The President talked to the COSA reps about the budget process and took questions. He feels the 5% budget cut is a worst case scenario and that we will probably fall somewhere below that. President McKinney was also asked about job security. He replied that vacant positions are the first to be cut to save money and increase efficiency. He wants to avoid cuts that disrupt people's lives. Dr. McKinney was asked about replacement of leadership in Student Affairs. The internal and outside evaluation reports are in and he will be doing a thorough read through and move forward on deciding the direction of leadership in that area. We have exceeded \$11 million toward the Capital Campaign; the university received two 7-figure gifts recently. The internal staff campaign is under 30% participation at this time.

b) Arian Bryant discussed the new bus routes which began this fall semester. Parking & Transportation took over the Blazer Night Shuttle from Housing. Routes were downsized and combined. The Red Line services Main Campus/Palms, Billy Grant Field and North Campus. The Black Line services Main Campus including the Student Health Center and Palms to the SRC and Fieldhouse on Mary Street, the UC, and Oak Street Lots. Nothing runs at North Campus at night. Blazer Night Shuttle runs 7 days a week. There is now a GPS service app so students and others can see where the shuttles are as they run on campus.

4) Approval of the Minutes of October 21, 2014 meeting of the Council on Staff Affairs

a) A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of October 21, 2014. The minutes were approved unanimously.

5) Treasurer's Report – Shanika Hezekiah

a) State	\$1,367.10
b) Discretionary	\$2,074.09
c) Books	\$ 0.00
d) Retirement	\$12,500.97

A question was asked about where Capital Campaign money goes if it is donated to COSA. It goes into the discretionary account.

6) Communication with Administration

a) Report from the Chair – Laura Pitts

- i) COSA shirt orders will be taken through this week – November 21. COSA funds are low; we only made \$22 from the Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser. The President will be talking with John Crawford on ways to help us raise funds for some of our initiatives like Blazer Book Awards. The Employee Dessert Social is scheduled for November 21 from 12:30 – 2:30. Derrick will email another reminder; we still need a few more volunteers to sign up to greet and serve. The President’s Holiday Social is scheduled for December 5. The Retiree Luncheon is scheduled for April 21, 2015 in the UC Magnolia Room. Dr. Luse shared with Laura that the Valdosta City BOE has complained that VSU employees from the UC are going onto their property to smoke and are throwing their butts on the ground – please be aware. Employee of the Semester nominations are still being taken. Jessica Klotz will be stepping down from COSA – we will need a replacement from Academic Affairs.
- b) Chartwells – Starting after Thanksgiving, they will be matching community restaurant specials to help keep the revenues on campus. Watch for these specials. Palms will begin pizza delivery for campus – 7 days a week, 3 – 11 PM, free delivery. There will a fill-and-go program starting in January also. Watch for details.

7) Staff Attendance and Participation – No reports

8) Employee Morale

- a) Employee Dessert Social – November 21, 12:30 – 2:30, reminder to COSA reps to please attend and help greet and serve; wear your red COSA shirt if you have one.

9) Representation on Committees

- a) V State Dining Advisory Board – Donnell Davis Jr. – No additional information after Pete Harkness’s report
- b) Retiree Committee- Joan Dear
 - i) Topics covered at the annual meeting included: how insurance will change for retirees; new officers elected. Questions were asked about the luncheon date and the status of the walkway. HR has a student working on the grid. Retirees are welcome to help work on the grid too. It is hopeful everything will be ready by the luncheon in April. In January information will be emailed to new/recent retirees so they can get a brick.

10) New Business

- a) Keith Warburg reported that the Strategic Planning Committee is doing a review to determine what areas have not turned in their plans as yet.
- b) Bobby Flowers reported that the ERC went through a bylaw change to change the committee’s name to Resource Conservation Committee. The committee did a walk through to check lighting and safety. A member questioned safety for students and others with regard to the bushes along Patterson outside the UC. VSU cannot cut/trim those bushes and trees because they belong to the City of Valdosta.
- c) Angela Uyeno reminded everyone about International Fraud Awareness. Some members commented on witnessing incidents of potential waste/fraud. The recommendation was to call the hotline to report concerns.

11) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bailey, COSA Secretary