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Staff Council Meeting, 9/18/2012

UNM Staff Council

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University of New Mexico

STAFF COUNCIL MEETING

September 18, 2012

SUB, Lobo A&B

Members Present: Elisha Allen, Emily Arzate, Bob Christner, Mary Clark, James Clayton, Marjorie Crow, Renee Delgado-Riley, Theresa Everling, Janisha Garcia, Mike Gatchell, Rick Goshorn, Carolyn Hartley, Gene Henley, Ana Parra Lombard, Karen Mann, Cindy Mason, Suzanne McConaghy, Linda McCormick, Shannon McCoy-Hayes, Marie McGhee, Mark Reynolds, Ann Rickard, Frances Rico, Joni Roberts, Candy Romero, Michael Snyder, Gina Urias-Sandoval, Bridgette Wagner-Jones, Justin Walters, Tracy Wenzl and James Wernicke.

Members Excused: Carol Bernhard, Natalie Bruner, Anne Burtnett, Kenneth Carpenter, Michael Chavez-Kerr, Lisa Gilmore, Veronica Griego, Traci Jastrzemski, Karen Kinsman, David Luna, Lee McGehee, Kathy McKinstry, Amie Ortiz, Carla Sakiestewa, Marie St Claire, Kathy Turner Chelsea Beth Walker and Daniel Weems.

Members Absent: Danielle Gilliam, Juan Larranaga and Andrea Rodgers.

Parliamentarian: Adam Hathaway, Professional Registered Parliamentarian, excused.

Call to Order: at 1:00 p.m. by Speaker Tracy Wenzl.

Agenda, approved with changes.

Minutes of August 21, 2012, approved with changes.

Constituent Comments: None.

President's Report, President Mary Clark:

President Clark reminded Councilors of the upcoming Student Success Summit on 9/19/12 and the Economic Development Summit on 9/21/12. President Clark encouraged Councilors to participate in UNM2020. The Provost has been tasked with making UNM one of the best places to work and President Clark will let him know that the Staff Council Work+Life Committee has been working on this for many years and may be of assistance. Bond C, dealing with improvements for UNM, will be on the election ballot in November. President Frank recently discussed the Freeh Report, which was written by former CIA Director, Louis Freeh, in response to events at Penn State University. President Frank sought information on how UNM crime statistics are reported to ensure UNM is compliant with the Clery Act. The Clery Act gathers data on campus crimes and consolidates it into a federal data base. On 9/17/12, President Clark and President Elect Henley met with Mark Saavedra, Director of the Government & Community Relations Office, to discuss ERB. The ERB will meet in special session to talk about a solvency proposal which will be presented to the New Mexico Legislature. UNM is not in agreement with this proposal because UNM does not support a change in the COLA. However, at this time, the Legislators are more concerned with the rate of return on investments for the retirement fund. In the next few months, there will be an internal search for the Dean of the Office of Graduate Studies and national searches for the Dean of the Honors College, Vice President for Research and the Director of UNM Gallup.

Executive Committee Report, President Elect Gene Henley:

President Elect Henley introduced a proposal to reorganize the structure of the Staff Council committees and requested comments be emailed to him. Because this will be a revision to the Staff Council bylaws, this proposal will be debated and voted on in October.

Speaker's Report, Speaker Tracy Wenzl:

Speaker Wenzl announced the upcoming Homecoming 2012 events sponsored by the Staff Council and thanked the Homecoming Ad Hoc Committee members for their work in organizing the events. Speaker Wenzl recognized Lisa Walden and Mark Reynolds for their work in collecting door prizes for the Homecoming event.

Speaker Wenzl appointed the following staff to fill vacant seats on the Staff Council: Stella Ramos, Grade 9, Susy Salvo-Wendt, Grade 10, Kendall Alexander, Grade 10 and Pam Castaldi, Grade 13. The appointments were approved. Speaker Wenzl informed the Council that Councilor Karen Mann volunteered, and was approved by the Executive Committee, to serve on Human Resources' Administrative Services Health Insurance Request for Proposal Task Force.

Guest Speakers:

Mary Kenney, Director, UNM Planning Office and Tony Sylvester, Project Manager, MRCOG spoke about the Alternative Analysis Study of the transit system for UNM, CNM and the Sunport area.

New Business: None.

Committee Reports:

Communication - Mark Reynolds: The Committee continues to work on the following items: Staff Council Brochure, Staff Council Mission Statement and the Animal Humane Doggie Dash & Dawdle UNM Team. The Staff Council Handbook has been reformatted. Reynolds surveyed the Councilors to ask which method of social media they prefer to use. The majority agreed that email was the preferred method.

Faculty Staff Benefits - Hans Barsun: The Committee continues to discuss and review ERB solvency proposals, the Health Insurance RFP and the Catastrophic Leave policy.

Government Relations - Gene Henley: ERB and compensation will be the driving issues in the upcoming legislative session and the Council needs to figure out what the best method will be to advocate for the positions that come out of the various legislative committees. Staff Council will solicit staff comments through advocacy networks to ensure a quick response. Compensation may not come up during the legislative session but the Staff Council must be prepared to advocate at the legislative level to ensure staff voices are heard. President Elect Henley encouraged Councilors to keep in regular contact with their constituents and to remain diligent about involving them in feedback.

Recreational Services Advisory Council - Cindy Mason: On 8/31/12, the Advisory Council met to discuss their goals for Recreational Services and Johnson Center. Election of officers for the Advisory Council will take place in October. The opening of Casas del Rio has increased the staffing needs at the Recreational Center and Johnson Center. Those two centers have also expanded their hours of service but funding for them remains an issue. The Advisory Council will begin a new initiative in the spring of 2013 called the Johnson Hall of Fame, where staff, students or faculty will be recognized in memoriam for the contributions individuals made to Recreational Services or Johnson Center. The Advisory council also discussed the replacement of antiquated equipment in Johnson Center; however, equipment will not be updated in the staff center. Mason asked Councilors for their comments and issues to take back to the Advisory Council in October.

Work+Life - Emily Arzate: Operation Gratitude will run from 10/31/12 – 11/12/12. Donation items will include candy, socks, gloves, scarves, hats, hand warmers and hand-held video games. Happy Tails Donation Drive for Animal Humane will run from 11/26/12 – 12/12/12. The Committee is meeting with the APS Calendar Committee to ensure spring break alignment between UNM-CNM and APS. The Work+Life Committee is also considering reinstating the Work+life Manager's Award Program and will continue to discuss this initiative.

Councilor Comments:

Mary Clark reminded Councilors to submit feedback on the proposed policy changes which are now out for public comment. The deadline to submit comments is 10/1/12.

Carolyn Hartley commented that Grade Councilors that have multiple representatives should coordinate their messages to constituents.

Renee Delgado-Riley reminded Councilors about the upcoming Student Success Summit on 9/18/12.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kathy Meadows, Administrative Officer, Staff Council Office.

The meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed by going to <http://staffcouncil.unm.edu>.