

Classified Staff Council Meeting April 15, 2010

Present: Mary Alltop, Jason Phares, Gail Westbrook, Jenny Boggs, Ann Reed, Deb Jenkins, Brian Hipp, Jim Tatman

Absent: Lois Miller, Sheri Skidmore, Carla Conley

Also present: Dr. Barr

Meeting was called to order at 8:34am by Jim Tatman, Chair. There were no prior minutes to approve due to Sheri's absence.

Guest:

Dr. Barr reported that there will be no in-state tuition/fee increases for the 2010-11. He is requesting for a slight increase in out-of-state tuition/fees, the metro rate for tuition/fees and parking permit fees. A discussion on the parking issues on campus arose. Dr. Barr is envisioning by raising student parking permit fees for parking spaces on campus and keeping fees low for the "Pit" or Morris Stadium spaces, students will choose the lower cost and park off of the main campus lots. This will potentially free up spaces on campus.

Dr. Barr reported that GSC is well on their way towards being able to fund the \$25 million needed in construction costs for the new Pioneer Center. There is approximately \$10 million remaining that needs to be raised for the project.

Unfortunately, along with rulings from the Governor, there will be no faculty or staff raises for next year. He stressed the importance of the much needed raises and is hoping to be able to offer raises for the following year. Mary pointed out that it was believed that step increases for staff would not have been considered as actual raises and could have been funded. Dr. Barr did agree but felt that it would have been unfair to supplement the salaries of staff and not faculty. If raises occur, he wants to be sure it is across the board. Dr. Barr stated that he would eventually like to see an "open, transparent merit based system" put into place on campus.

Some announcements: there will be ROTC classes being offered in the fall; there will be a grand opening of the new residence halls on August 19th which will give the opportunity for anyone to tour the facility before students move in; he wants to work on increasing course offerings in Braxton County and at the NRC&TC campus in Summersville; GSC is the pilot campus for the JASON project.

Mary voiced a concern to Dr. Barr in reference to the college budget and what will happen when stimulus funds will no longer be available after next year. Dr. Barr indicated that the budget will fall short in the amount of approximately \$563,000. He is hoping that the shortfall can be made up in tuition/fee increases and by increasing enrollment. Dr. Barr will be requesting a 9 ½ -10% increase in tuition/fees for 2011-12.

Dr. Barr adjourned at 9:14am.

- Reports:

- Mary Alltop reported on some information from her Advisory meeting yesterday. There was discussion concerning how PEIA will be affected by the National Health Care Plan. How and if PEIA will be affected is not known at this time.
 - Lengthy discussion concerning SB 480 took place. The Advisory Council voted that the Executive Committee have authorization to take action on any issues concerning SB 480 if this bill were to proceed into the special session. Being that so much discussion took place, Mary did not go into detail but offered assistance to individuals who would like any further information.
 - The concern was raised again about the movement of non-classified staff into classified staff positions. The main issue is that these individuals do not have PIQ's on file in the Human Resources Office. Members discussed the possibility of Staff Council taking action in encouraging staff to complete a PIQ or update their existing PIQ if needed. It was agreed to further the discussion at the next council meeting.
- Old Business:
 - The Staff vs. Faculty softball game was a huge success and everyone has received positive comments concerning the event. There is definite interest in having a game every year. After all expenses were paid, the event raised a total of \$500.
 - Everyone needs to be encouraged to review the Staff Handbook for any changes. It was discussed to bring the handbook to the next meeting so Staff Council can go over each section and make any necessary changes.
 - New Business:
 - The BOG meeting is on April 21st, at 12:30. Staff Council will be presenting to the Board. It was decided that the presentation should include information about SB 480 and a report on the success of the Staff vs. Faculty softball game. Jason offered to put something together for our review.
 - There is \$1,190.98 remaining in the Professional Development Funds. Two applications were received: Jenny Boggs for a Mountain State course needed for her Masters in Strategic Leadership; Ann Reed for a Capella University course needed for her Masters in Enrollment Management. Both applications were approved. (m/s, Jenkins/Phares) These two awards will zero out the funds.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am. (m/s, Hipp/Boggs)