

STAFF ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2007

PRESENT

Elinor Cherry, Barbara Dessureau, Carla Fuller, Maria Marques, Jim Mello, Jason Pomposelli, Jennifer Sanborn, Leah Thomas, Lois Vanesse

PRESIDENT REPORT

Jason Pomposelli opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The October SA minutes were accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

The annual Thanksgiving luncheon was held on November 7, 2007. Approximately 100 people were in attendance, and members seemed to once again enjoy this gathering. Food donations to Food Share weighed in at 195 lbs, and a number of members also brought underwear and toiletries donations for Project Horizon. Thank you to all who participated and contributed so generously.

Staff night at the women's basketball game was held on December 7, 2007. 17 tickets for the VIP section were sold; 2 tickets for the North Gallery were sold. \$85 dollars was raised for Staff Association. The next staff night will be at the men's game on January 5, 2008.

A letter on behalf of the Staff Association membership was delivered to participants of the Strategic Planning Committee and its associated subcommittees. Association members were complimentary of the quality of the letter, and pleased that it was generating discussion.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

There were no committee reports.

NEW BUSINESS

A bus trip to a casino is tentatively being planned for January 18th. Mark your calendars; more information will be forthcoming.

A Staff Association member has suggested the University investigate periodic telecommuting for employees where this would be suitable. The member cited the potential cost savings to individuals (in essence, the gas savings would feel like a raise without any increased cost to the institution), the potential increase in staff morale, and the alleviation of some campus problems like parking. While there will need to be extensive research completed before a formal proposal is created, there was sufficient interest to move the discussion forward into a future meeting. Members were personally divided as to whether they would use such a benefit, but did believe the topic should be discussed at greater length. The proposing member and Staff Association executive board members will research policies at other institutions, including rates of use, to have a more in-depth conversation at the January 2008 meeting.

Faculty Senate focused a recent meeting on the need for campus recycling. In addition to a photo tour created by Joanna Borucinska of the current state of recycling, senators heard from colleagues at CCSU about their efforts and what has generated the most success. Maria Marques suggested this same presentation for the Staff Association in hopes that we might combine staff, faculty, and student efforts around our shared environmental concerns. Many

ideas were raised about how to successfully implement recycling, and we determined that a future meeting will be held to discuss this issue specifically. (Aim for February Staff Association meeting)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jason has invited students to give out raffle tickets and gifts at the Aramark Holiday Party. He made this request so that staff members might enjoy, rather than staff/work, the party given in their honor. Thank you, Jason!

Next meeting will be January 9, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in the Hartford Room, Gengras Student Union. We expect to discuss the telecommunication suggestion at greater length.

Jennifer Sanborn
Corresponding Secretary