

STAFF ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2008

PRESENT

Elinor Cherry, Sue Fitzgerald, Ellen Levasseur, Maria Marques, Jim Mello, Vanessa Nkrumah, Lisa Parker, Jason Pomposelli, Jennifer Sanborn

PRESIDENT REPORT

Jason Pomposelli opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. The January SA minutes were accepted with minor changes. In the paragraph on telecommuting the word "elevate" should be changed to "alleviate," and Joann Borucinska's name should be "Joanna."

SPEAKER

Our scheduled speaker, Luis Natal, is out due to illness and will appear at a future meeting.

Sue Fitzgerald joined the meeting to interest the association in the upcoming Founder's Follies. This event, designed to honor the anniversary of the University's founding, will feature an a capella contest with student groups and staff/faculty groups competing for prizes by singing the University's alma mater and other group-selected pieces. The student prize is \$300; the staff/faculty prize is dinner with Lee Peters and Joe Voelker. Vanessa Nkrumah and Jennifer Sanborn expressed a willingness to represent the Staff Association; they are in need of a third participant in order to register.

OLD BUSINESS

An ad hoc group exploring telecommuting for staff employees has held one meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21st at 1pm. If you are interested in contributing and participating, please contact Jim Mello in the Provost's Office.

The casino trip was cancelled due to lack of interest. The group discussed whether the primary issue was timing, destination, or general apathy about spending time together outside of work. The association executive board welcomes your feedback and suggestions for other outings that might have greater interest.

Jason Pomposelli has spoken with Dr. Joanna Borucinska about presenting on the current state of recycling practices on our campus. We hope she will be able to attend a future meeting.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

There were no committee reports.

NEW BUSINESS

Jason Pomposelli shared thank you notes from the four students who received scholarships from staff/faculty contributions.

Coach Dan Leibovitz has offered staff/faculty a thank you gift of free chairback seats (\$5 for additional guests) to Sunday's (2/17) game against New Hampshire. The association

discussed ways to increase participation in athletic events. An enhanced discount was of interest to members in attendance at the meeting.

Volunteers are needed for the traffic appeals board. Vanessa Nkrumah and Jim Mello volunteered. Anyone else interested should contact Ellen Levasseur.

Finalists for the provost position will be visiting campus over the next two weeks. Concerns were raised about staff having a shared session with faculty/students, whereas the other two groups have individual sessions. Jason Pomposelli intends to send a letter to President Harrison expressing this concern. Staff members are encouraged to attend the sessions, ask questions, and give input on the selection process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Day is scheduled for April 19th. As we get closer, we'll determine if there is interest in having a table or booth.

Future guest speakers will include Luis Natal speaking about WARS/MARS (Women/Men Against Rape and Sexual Assault) and a representative from Residence Life speaking about room selection.

Next meeting will be March 12, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in the Simsbury Suite, Gengras Student Union.

Jennifer Sanborn
Corresponding Secretary