The Staff Senate met Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in CSC Cheyenne Meeting Room. Members in attendance were Chris Gore, Barbara Merkle, Pam Morgan, Mike Deming, Treva Clifton, Lori Case, Marcus Hill, Joe Mrugalski, Ernest Cooper, Francis Miller, Chris Stovall and Sharon Johnson.

Approval of minutes
Pam Morgan moved to approve the minutes from 04/15/09. Motion was seconded by Ernest Cooper. Minutes were approved as submitted.

Correspondence
An email from Debbie Barrow related that the Governor signed HB 602 on May 12 which changes the Texas Education Code to identify Midwestern State University as a public liberal arts university in Texas. A ceremonial bill signing may be possible in the future.

Committee Reports
Administrative Council – (Chris Gore) The Cost Effectiveness Committee did meet. This committee considered the results of the Staff Senate poll regarding a four-day workweek.

Academic Council – (Barb Merkle) This committee will meet today.

Faculty Senate – (Pam Morgan) Faculty members have been chosen for the Provost search.

Student Affairs Council – (Chris Gore) Two new staff members were introduced. They are Dominique Calhoun and Cammie Dean. Krystal Amador gave an Annual Fund presentation. The Wellness Center furniture has been delivered. The MSU Cheerleaders placed third in Nationals. Spirit Days initial mailing has been sent out. Grant McCasland is the new basketball coach. Postage has gone up. We are expecting 600 graduates this Saturday and the Mustangs statue is being put into place.

Enrollment Management Council – (Treva Clifton) The council discussed possible language corrections on freshman requirements. Also, coding on Distance Education students was discussed. In the future, Vitae will include staff employees and departmental budgets. Dr. Clark discussed possible 24 hour registration and no paper schedules in the future.
Board of Regents – (Chris Gore) The Board will meet this week. As part of their agenda they will discuss the change in requirements that the Staff Senate has suggested to The MSU Educational Assistance Program for Employee Dependents program.

Staff Senate Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Met May 5, 2009 to set the agenda.

Long Range Planning Committee – Marcus Hill would like to send out an all staff email for suggestions for this committee. Joe Mrugalski made a suggestion that one of this committee’s responsibilities might be to coordinate fundraisers.

Communications Committee – Joe Mrugalski asked that the previous minutes be emailed to him after the changes have been made. He also stated that the nominations/voting link has been closed.

Membership Committee – Ernest Cooper suggested that we look at having a requirement that each person nominated to serve on the Staff Senate have at least two nominations. He stated that 17 staff members from one EEO class had been nominated and only 3 accepted. He also suggested that we limit the number of people you could vote for to the number of openings in each class. Chris Gore stated that we needed to get the elections open, that a new senator to EEO class 5 had been added, that verifications had been sent and elections would begin Monday May 18 and close May 31.

By-laws Committee – No Report

Scholarship Committee – Chris Stovall presented the new Staff Senate Scholarship Application for our approval. He stated we would award on prior GPA, at the beginning of the semester and it would be applied to the student’s account. Several changes were noted by the Senators that should be made.
Change line 11 to read – “beginning of semester”
Change line 4 to “benefit eligible”
We also discussed that we would limit this scholarship to $300 with no more than 2 scholarships awarded.
Pam Morgan moved to accept the application as amended. Treva Clifton seconded the motion. All approved.
The Senate members have decided to have a fund raiser this summer to support the scholarship.
Chris Stovall will set up an account for the scholarship fund through the Business Office.

Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee – Emeritus Status – Barb Merkle related the goal of having a proposal for Board of Regents consideration pending subsequent committee approvals.
New Business

Pam Morgan stated that an Interim Dean has been selected for COBA.

Round Robin

Lori Case gave a quick financial report on the Staff Senate account.

Our next meeting will be June 10, 2009

Motion was made to adjourn by Pam Morgan and seconded by Barbara Merkle

Submitted by: Lori Case