

Staff Council meeting opened with committee reports:

*Adrienne Browning**

Jessica Dunnegan

*Brooklyn Foster**

*Deirdre Greene**

*James Kennedy**

*Betty Keown**

*Keith Lancaster**

*Heather Nicklies**

*Casey Scruggs**

*Bill Sleeper**

*Tanya Vincent**

*Melvin Watson**

*Eric Wolfe**

*--attended meeting

Book Scholarship

- The committee received 21 applications. Four recipients were selected: Ms. Jacqueline Doyle, Massage Therapist, Health & Fitness Lab; Mr. Matthew Atkinson, Coordinator, Nursing Services, Health Services; Ms. Tabatha Phillips, Coordinator, Testing Center's Distance Learning; and Ms. Leah Voss, Photo Editor, Talisman. Staff Council congratulates this semester's recipients.

- Staff Council received an email regarding revisiting eligibility requirements for the Staff Book Scholarship. Previously, WKU Staff members were only eligible if taking classes at WKU. There are a number of WKU Staff that use the tuition waiver to take classes at other universities, but were not able to apply for the book scholarship. After discussion, a motion was made by Tanya Vincent to remove the qualification that staff must be enrolled at WKU, and to add an e-signature approval to the application to allow the committee to verify recipients are enrolled in classes. Deirdre Greene provided the second, and Staff Council voted to make the amendments.

Diversity

- In February, the Student Campus Climate survey will be released through email. In order to encourage participation there will be a drawing for awards among those who respond to the survey.

- The committee wants to get a sense of how students feel about various diversity issues on campus. This better enables the committee to plan upcoming activities/opportunities.

- The faculty/staff survey revealed more concerns about religious tolerance on campus than any other concerns.

Designated Smoking

- The DSU initiative needs to be pursued. The current designated smoking areas were deemed sufficient upon investigation and the committee would like to encourage everyone to continue to monitor the situation.

- An email was received over the winter break regarding smoking at the museum. This issue will be documented in the near future to allow the committee to better address the problem.

Legislative

- The committee meets weekly to go over bills that hold interest for WKU.

- Staff Council would like to thank Deirdre Greene for her time commitment to this committee. We look forward to the information and dedication we know she will provide.

Staff Council continued the meeting with a discussion of the revised Termination/Discipline policy for Non-Faculty. After discussion regarding a need for recourse by staff members regarding a negative decision, a motion was made by Brooklyn Foster to add an appeals process to the policy. Staff Council supports the addition of such a policy, similar to that allowed for faculty.

Staff Council was visited by Wade Pinkard, WKU Employee Wellness Manager, for an overview of the 2014 Wellness Program. Approximately 43% of eligible employees participated in the 2013 Wellness Program, and 30% earned the

full incentive. Staff Council encourages every full-time benefits-eligible employee to participate in the 2014 Wellness Program. For further details, visit the Wellness website at www.wku.edu/employeeewellness

Staff Council continued with a discussion of the proposed staff teaching policy (Policy 1.5170). The proposal went before the University Senate at their January 23rd meeting. The proposed policy would be effective beginning with the 2014-2015 academic year. The policy can be found under the Administrative Policies portion of the Academic Affairs Policies website: https://www.wku.edu/policies/academic_affairs.php

Staff Council concluded with a discussion regarding our vision for the future of the Benefits Committee and the role Staff Council will play in the future regarding the distribution of information. We are currently formulating a plan of action to keep staff involved and informed of all potential impacts.

Please let us continue to hear from ALL staff, via the anonymous drop box, directly to the Staff Council collectively, or to individual members of the Council. We need to know issues you have or believe need addressing so that we can serve you better.

Our February 12th meeting will be held in the Regents Room of MMTH at 9:00 am. We will discuss new policy proposals, e-cigarette usage on campus, and have a visit from Tony Glisson.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

FYI: Visit the Staff Council web page at <http://www.wku.edu/staffcouncil/> . It offers a wide variety of information.

Click Contact Us to access an anonymous e-mail form where you can voice your concerns, questions, suggestions, and any ideas you would like Staff Council to address.

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