

STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 5, 2008

The WKU Staff Council met on November 5, 2008 at MMTH Journalism Library. Those present were Cassandra Bailey, Tammi Beach, Diane Carver, Larry (Tex) Currington, James Kennedy, Cheryl Lewis-Smith, Sherry Merklings, Jennifer Ragan, Angela Robertson, Retha Spinks, Tammy Spinks, Shannon Ward and Mike Young. Those not present were: April Gaskey, Darrel Saalwaechter and Tamela Smith.

Tamela Smith, Staff Regent, could not be present but she sent an email expressing the following: I attended the meeting called by Deborah Logan to discuss the Bowling Green Medical Clinic/Anthem issue. I wanted to hear what the staff had to say on that. Unfortunately, this was a battle between BGMC and Anthem so there wasn't anything we could do.

The Fall Brunch was attended by 808 people. The total cost to the Staff Council was \$4,516.72. The winners of the Staff Excellence Awards were Administrative Support Category: Debbie Gabbard (Agriculture Department), Professional Non-Faculty Category: Elizabeth Mohon (Counseling and Testing Center), Skilled/Technical/Paraprofessional Category: David Newsom (University Farm), Building Services Attendant Category: Dwayne Holloway (Facilities Management). The winners of the Dance Contest were Johnathan Oglesby and Brian Pedigo. Cheryl Lewis-Smith asked if the Safety Fair that was held after the Fall Brunch be incorporated with the Fall Brunch next year in the lobby of DUC after the Fall Brunch ended. She thought more vendors would participate and more people would attend.

Karl Laves, Ombudsman, attended the Staff Council. He stated that he has had 8 contacts with 2 unresolved and 6 in the next step process. He will be in place until May 2009, but is working on being here throughout the summer. He is planning on remaining Ombudsman. He keeps track of his hours per case and keeps a log of each incident. Cheryl Lewis-Smith stated that she would see that the HR web site contain a page for the ombudsman. Karl Laves can be reached at 270-745-3159 and 270-781-5065. His office is at 409 Potter Hall. He will meet anyone at his office or where they would feel most comfortable. His email address is karl.laves@wku.edu.

The Staff Council discussed the Emergency System. An Emergency Services Team has been set up and has already begun meeting. They will put in place the BEST Team, which is Building Emergency Safety Team. Two individuals from each department will be on the team. A primary and a secondary person will be chosen. This will be on a voluntary basis. A video showing what could happen (This is not what happened at WKU) has been placed on <http://www.wku.edu/emergency-info/>. If you select Shooting on Campus, it will take you directly to the video once you log in. It is about a 20 minute video.

Angela Robertson, Chairperson, has asked that we discuss changing the by-laws to allow a co-chair for Staff Council. This position would preside when the chair could not attend and also attend meetings in the chair's place.

Tamela Smith sent an email stating the following about the Downtown parking structure: I attended the Board of Regents meeting this morning. I was able to speak and present issues regarding the extended contract on the parking structure proposal, but it did pass 7-4. I do want to clarify one point that I should have made in my email yesterday - this vote was only on an amendment of the original agreement. Last year, the BOR had approved an agreement with the City of BG for spaces in

their proposed parking structure. After we approved it, the City then amended it. The original proposal was for WKU to pay \$250,000 a year for 200 spaces for 15 years. The revised proposal is for WKU to pay \$250,000 a year for 200 spaces for 20 years, and \$250,000 a year for 300 spaces for the next 10 years. The Board felt that agreement would help alleviate some of the parking problems for WKU in the future. They did listen to me and several members spoke with me afterwards to express their support for staff, but they felt this was a forward-looking initiative for WKU.

We need to be thinking about the Staff Regent election next year.

Tammi Beach, Sustainability Committee member, stated that the committee will have the first meeting before Thanksgiving.

The December Staff Council meeting will be held at Jones Jagers Conference Room. We will begin at 8:30 a.m.

It was discussed that Bob Ware has stated that he will hire employees on a full time basis, not part time before becoming full time.

Respectively Submitted by
Diane Carver, Secretary