

Subject: 3/12/02 Staff Council Minutes

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Organization: Western Kentucky University

To: Staff-All <Staff-All@wku.edu>

The Staff Council held its regular monthly meeting on March 12, 2002, 9:00 a.m., at the Kentucky Museum. Members present were: Johnny Allen, Deborah Cole, Dana Divine, Teresa Dunning, Joy Gramling, Carolyn Hunt, Dale LaMastus, Phyllis Reed, Brad Stinnett, Lynne Swetmon, Tony Thurman, Brian Ward and ex officio member Staff Regent Howard Bailey. Members absent were: Jackie Ellis and Elizabeth Paris. President Gary Ransdell and Human Resources Director Tony Glisson also attended the meeting at the request of the Council to discuss various issues.

- Discussion with President Ransdell- (1) The Council brought to the President's attention the fact that there are concerns of Facilities Management employees about their managers and a need to be able to voice concerns without fear of retribution. Tony Glisson reported that an Employee Relations Council has recently been created to allow Facilities Management employees the opportunity to state their grievances without fear of retribution. (2) Merit raises versus across the board raises and part-time salaries/benefits were discussed. (3) The President also gave details on aspects of the WKU Strategic Plan affecting staff. (4) The Council discussed with the President plans for the Tate Page and Mimosa parking lots.
- Salary Committee Report – The Salary Committee has met and made a partial recommendation to the Staff Council concerning distribution of possible staff market adjustment pools. The Committee will present a final report to the full Council and a recommendation will be forthcoming.
- **Staff Council Elections** – Staff Council election nominations were mailed March 12, 2002. **The deadline for nominations is March 27. The 2002 Staff Council election will take place April 17, 2002.** We will be electing 4 technical/skilled/service/maintenance representatives, 2 professional non-faculty representatives, 3 secretarial/clerical representatives, and 2 at-large representatives. The two candidates with the highest number of votes in the technical/skilled/service/maintenance category and the candidate with the highest number of votes in each of the other categories will serve a 3 year term to help stagger our membership to avoid so many members rotating off at one time. A motion to conduct on-line voting passed unanimously. Paper ballots will be available to Facilities Management and all other employees who do not have access to a computer.
- University Benefits Committee Report- The Committee will provide the campus community with a financial status report on the WKU Health Insurance in April. It appears that we will be able to continue with self insurance and will not be forced to participate in the State plan this year.
- KTRS report – This Committee has been reorganized and will continue working on the issue of staff employees in KTRS not being able to use accumulated sick leave toward retirement.
- University Senate report – Brad Stinnett and Tony Thurman attended the February University Senate meeting as representatives of the Staff Council. They reported that the Faculty Senate endorsed the University Benefits Committee's proposal to increase the University health insurance contribution.
- Staff Leadership Committee – No progress to report.
- Part-time Committee Report – The part-time committee has developed an employee survey to submit to part-time employees that will help identify their concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on April 2, 2002, at the Facilities Management Building.

The Staff Council wants to hear from you. Do you have a question, concern or comment? You can now e-mail the Staff Council: staffcouncil@wku.edu

The Staff Council Minutes, Constitution and By-Laws are posted on the Staff Council Web Page at <http://www.wku.edu/staffcouncil>.

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