

Subject: 12/4/01 Staff Council Minutes**Resent-From:** Staff-All@wku.edu**Date:** Fri, 07 Dec 2001 07:53:03 -0600**From:** "Elizabeth Paris" <Elizabeth.Paris@wku.edu> Internal**Organization:** Western Kentucky University**To:** Staff-All <Staff-All@wku.edu>

The Staff Council held its regular monthly meeting at 9:00 am in Downing University Center on December 4, 2001. Members present were: Johnny Allen, Dana Divine, Jackie Ellis, Joy Gramling, Dale LaMastas, Elizabeth Paris, Lynne Swetmon, Phyllis Reed, Brad Stinnett, Tony Thurman and ex officio member Staff Regent Howard Bailey. Members absent were: Dina Bessette, Deborah Cole, Teresa Dunning, Carolyn Hunt and Brian Ward.

- Health Insurance Committee Report - Joy Gramling, Staff Council representative on the University Health Insurance Committee, updated the Council on issues including discussions concerning the University contribution to health insurance and the status of requested financial report for the University community.
- University Senate Report - Joy Gramling attended the University Senate meeting in November as a representative of the Staff Council. Joy provided the Council with an update on issues being discussed by the Senate. President Ransdell is scheduled to attend the December University Senate meeting to discuss budget issues and in his recent e-mail to Faculty/Staff extended an invitation to the entire campus to attend the Senate meeting. The meeting is scheduled to be held in Garrett Ballroom on December 13 at 3:30 pm. Elizabeth Paris and Jackie Ellis are to attend the December meeting as representatives of the Staff Council.
- Volunteer Hours - A University staff member asked the Council to consider the issue of the University allowing employees additional hours of leave time to perform community volunteer work. The employee felt that this would serve an incentive for employees to perform community volunteer work as well as help organizations which depend on volunteers. After discussion the Council decided that although we encourage employees to perform community service, our leave policy is extremely generous and that such a program would be extremely difficult to monitor; therefore, we will not pursue this issue.
- KTRS Committee Report - Tony Thurman reported that the KTRS Committee will take the issue of employees in the Kentucky Teachers Retirement System accumulating sick leave that may be applied to retirement credit to the University Senate. This issue is a complex one and is also an issue for faculty. The KTRS Committee will report back to the Council once that have met with the Senate.
- Staff Council meeting with President Ransdell - President Ransdell is scheduled to meet with the Staff Council at the March 12, 2002, meeting. A list of questions for the President will be discussed at the January and February meetings.
- Other Business - Elizabeth Paris reported that Gordon Johnson, Director of Administrative Computing, would be coming to the January, 2002, meeting of the Staff Council to discuss on-line voting for the April, 2002, Staff Council Elections.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am. The next regular meeting will be held January 8, 2002, TCCW 368.

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>.