

Lamar University Staff Senate

July 12, 2011

Senators present:

Sherri Fitzgerald, Stephanie Simmons, Valarie Black, Diann Brodnax, Evie Clifton, Lisa Cowart, Don Curl, Steve Ford, Lena Francis, Tom Griffin, Megan Hale, Sharlene Hatch, Dimples Jones, Irma Jones, Cynthia Ksiazek, Paula McNeel, Debby Piper, Lisa Roach, Doug Sampson, Sharon Sanders, Dorthea Titus, Kirk Tribes, Linda Turner, and Natasha Walker.

I. Call to Order

President, Sherri Fitzgerald, called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.

II. Roll Call

Secretary, Diann Brodnax called roll. A quorum was seated.

III. Minutes

Megan Hale made a motion and Lisa Roach seconded to accept the June 2011 minutes.
The Senate unanimously approved the June 2011 minutes.

IV. Committee Reports

Executive Committee:

The Exec meeting with Dr. Simmons and Dr. Lassen was held on June 20, 2011. They expressed the unfortunate reality of removing some departments in the following few months. They would like to honor the core mission of providing an education to students during these hard times. They are forced to make agonizing choices.

The state is requiring all higher education institutions to return \$5 million dollars from their budgets. Lamar will need to save \$9 million to return to the state. Money will be set aside to invest in the future of Lamar.

Dr. Simmons and Dr. Lassen would like Customer Service to be exemplary at Lamar.

They want to implement a training team for staff workshops to help build excellent customer service.

The future motto is Recruit, Retain, Raise fees. A possible fee raise will occur after meeting with the Regents in August.

The next police chief will focus beyond Lamar campus to change the perception of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Bylaws Committee:

Stephanie Simmons, Co-Chair, proposed a motion to accept the addition of a Posthumous Service Award. Don Curl made a motion and Megan Hale seconded to accept the addition to the Bylaws. The Senate unanimously voted to add the addition to the Bylaws.

Community Service Committee:

Sherri Fitzgerald was arrested on June 16, 2011 for MDA. She raised \$1145.00.

Sharlene Hatch would like to thank Sharon Sanders and Sherri Fitzgerald for their work with the 19th Annual 12News March of Dimes Baby Shower.

A second MOD tee shirt order was completed. Sharlene would like to thank everyone that ordered shirts.

Compensation and Budget:

None

Issues Committee:

None

Nominations Committee:

Staff Senator Nominations ended July 8, 2011.

An announcement of newly elected senators will be announced once the College of Education run-off is completed.

Staff Senate Executive election nominations will take place in July.

Voting will be during the August meeting.

Staff Awards Committee:

None

V. Unfinished Business

None

VI. New Business

Please gets a clarification on the Early Childhood Center funding issue. Will the center be closing?

Can the Recreation Sports Center fee be waived for employees? Can employees add a membership to their membership? Can guest passes or fees be offered?

How are other institutions in our system fairing with their funding during these hard times?

Where are the Softball funds coming from?

What are the raised funds used for? (The millions campaign)

Facilities Management employees would like to have a meeting with Dr. Simmons and Dr. Lassen. They would like to have the opportunity to address issues and concerns with the executives.

VII. Good of the Order

Valarie Black, Treasurer, announced the Staff Senate budget balance is \$1317.55. Staff senator awards would not be given out this year to save on costs. August meeting food will not be served this year to reduce costs.

Sharlene Hatch announced the Degree Audit training will begin the week of July 18th. Please go online under Events, then Campus Announcements, to register for a training session.

Cynthia Ksiazek announced Move-in Day is August 19th, 20th, 21st. Please sign-up to volunteer to work this event. She asked if the Staff Senate tent could be used to show Staff Senate support.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Lisa Roach to adjourn, Megan Hale seconded, and all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

OPEN MEETING

LAMAR UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE MEETING

**August 9, 2011
10:00 A.M.
Gray Library 8th Floor**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
- VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**