

Staff Senate

Held on: July 8, 2003, 10:00 a.m.
Held at: 8th Floor of the John & Mary Gray Library

Senators present:

Kay Adamson, Julie Alford, Sal Costa, Jana Daigle, Gail Davis, Tom Griffin, Eddie Henley, Tina Johnson, Diana Licatino, Gene Moye, Brenda Oliver, Cindy Rhoden, Chad Smith, Wendy Smith, Karen Wells, Tina Wright, Phyllis York

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice-President Jana Daigle.

II. Roll Call

The roll was called by the secretary, Tina Johnson. A quorum was seated. There were 17 senators present.

III. Minutes

Karen Wells made a motion to accept the minutes from June 10, 2003 meeting and Tina Wright seconded. The Senate approved the minutes unanimously without changes. Tina Johnson will post the minutes to the Staff Senate Website.

IV. Committee Reports

Executive Board:

Eddie, Jana, and Tina met to discuss what needs to be done before the end of the year. The items are as follow:

Nominations

Officer nominations/election

Incoming/outgoing senator reception food order

Nominations Committee:

Increased numbers of senators in some areas

Nomination forms for new senators were distributed on July 7,2003

Staff Awards Committee:

Cindy Rhoden, Chair, and Jana Daigle mentioned that the deadline to select staff awards is on July 15,2003. If a staff member's has a problem with their name not being on the list,they should contact Human Resources immediately.

VI. Good of the Order

Karen Wells mentioned that she will retire on January 31, 2004.

Alicia Peveto from Human Resources gave us new information regarding vacation hours. Beginning July 1, 2003 vacation accruals will increase by 1 hour. Alicia mentioned that it is very important to

submit Course Enrollment forms before the deadline. The deadline to submit forms for Summer II 2003 is July 9, 2003.

Connie Desha gave information regarding insurance changes. There will now be a \$50.00 prescription deductible per family member beginning September 1, 2003. Employees can decline medical insurance and keep their optional insurances such as dental, life and disability coverage. This will go into effect on September 1, 2003. Connie discussed retirement. The retirement age will be age 65 with 10 years of State service with a UGIP participating agency or institution starting September 1, 2003. Time is limited for employees within the 55-65 age groups. Connie is working on getting a report made in order to reach employees who are 55 and over. If you have any questions regarding retirement or insurance changes, you can visit the Employee Retirement System's (ERS) website at www.ers.state.tx.us. Connie warned everyone to be careful when submitting information or changes to ERS on-line. If you need to stop or decide to move to another location make sure before you move on that everything you want to submit is complete.

Connie mentioned that Summer Enrollment will begin on July 21, 2003 through August 22, 2003. All SKIP and Tex Flex participants must reapply yearly.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.