

Lamar University Staff Senate

September 13, 2011

Senators present:

Sherri Fitzgerald	Evie Clifton	Angel Griffin	Cynthia Ksiazek	Kirk Tribes
Steve Ford	Dr. Robert Corbett	Tom Griffin	Carlene Lloyd	Donna Wilridge
Lisa Roach	Guy Crossley	Sharlene Hatch	Sharon Marrs	
Diann Brodnax	Denise Dillard	Cherice Hebert	Paula McNeel	
Kathleen Andrews	Amanda Doiron	Cynthia Hall	Monitca Owens	
Chris Baur	Lena Francis	Rose Hubbard	Doug Sampson	
Valarie Black	Dr. Mary Gagne	Dimples Jones	Carmen Savant	
Dewanna Campbell	Stacie Granger	Irma Jones	Dorthea Titus	

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

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

III. Minutes

Dr. Mary Gagne made a motion and Dimples Jones seconded to accept the August 2011 minutes.
The Senate unanimously approved the August 2011 minutes.

IV. Committee Reports

Executive Committee:

The Exec Board did not meet in August. Next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2011.

Bylaws Committee:

None

Community Service Committee:

- * Sharlene Hatch announced the total money raised for the March of Dimes campaign is \$448.55.
- * October 14, 2011 will be a walk for Domestic Violence. Sharlene will send information soon.
- * October 29, 2011 will be a walk for cancer awareness. Sharlene will send information soon.

Compensation and Budget:

None

Issues Committee:

None

Nominations Committee:

**Newly elected Senators for the 2011-2012 terms are:*

Guy Crossley – Business	Denise Dillard – Education
Amanda Doiron – Academic Services	Stacie Granger – Nursing
Cherice Hebert – Career and Testing	Carlene Lloyd – Center for General Studies
Sharon Marrs – Athletics	

**Re-elected Senators for 2011-2012 terms are:*

Barb Barker-Milstead – Records	Evie Clifton – Alumni Affairs
Dr. Robert Corbett – Biology	Tom Griffin – Facilities Management
Sharlene Hatch – Information Technology Services	Cynthia Ksiazek – Health Center
Peggy Moss – Deaf Studies/Deaf Education	Lisa Roach – Finance/Travel
Kirk Tribes – Finance/Accounting	

Staff Awards Committee:

None

V. Unfinished Business

- * Guests are allowed to join an employee's gym membership to the Sheila Umphrey Recreational Sports Center. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Jeanes at 409.880.8277.

VI. New Business

- * Diann Brodnax asked why the Health Center doctor or nurse is not called out when there is an immediate emergency. In some cases, it may take emergency personnel too long to respond. Can the Health Center resources be available in such cases?
- * Tom Griffin asked to check why Facilities Management employees are required to work at Athletic events and then required to take a day off during that same week.

VII. Good of the Order

- * Lisa Roach, Treasurer, announced Staff Senate proposed budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year is \$3000.00. Monitca Owens made a motion to accept the proposed budget and Irma Jones seconded the motion. The Senate unanimously approved the proposed budget.
- * Lena Francis announced Education Department will be holding a Job Fair October 6, 2011 in the Montagne Center, 1:00pm – 3:00pm.
- * Diann Brodnax reminded Senators to check out the Staff Senate website for current information and minutes.
- * Sherri Fitzgerald announced the upcoming Soccer and Football games.
- * Evie Clifton provided Get Your Red On posters to display in your building.
- * Dr. Lassen was a guest at the meeting today. He addressed the Senators about his goals for Lamar University and answered a few questions.
 - * Per Dr. Lassen – Lamar is not out of the woods but Lamar is on a path of good. “Where Lamar is going will be better than where we are now”. Dr. Lassen wants to know each Staff Senator personally. He believes the Senate can initiate a movement of change. He thinks of Lamar employees as family.
 - * Dr. Lassen announced a project that is underway addressing customer service on campus. He states that Texas state funding is being cut each year, revenue will depend on students. So, in relationship to staff, students are “customers”. Four Senators have been chosen to lead this campaign: Sherri Fitzgerald, Stephanie Simmons, Valarie Black, and Diann Brodnax. The four will attend a workshop in October on Customer Service training.
 - * On the subject of outsourcing services offered at Lamar, Dr. Lassen stated it is a path of change to do more with less money. Ex. Facilities Management needs a new management team. There are processes we don't know about to help with costs and efficiency. Training opportunities are great along with great expertise and resources. The idea for outsourcing is to improve jobs.
 - * Another change will be implementing ERP Solutions. This is a management campaign to address recruitment, advising, and retaining students. Dr. Lassen reminded Senators that some changes will look scary but it's not going to hurt you. The changes will allow employees to make their jobs easier and free them to embrace their next job challenge.
 - * Retirement is a concern for employees affected by the outsourcing change. Dr. Lassen stated this concern is a big challenge they are facing. He doesn't have a perfect answer but will work to figure out a solution. A question was asked if other departments will be outsourced in the future. Dr. Lassen said the core mission is critical to uphold. He doesn't have a perfect

answer. It may be that in the future department money will shift to more desirable units. Departments may be re-organized.

- * Expenses and revenue will be assessed in January. They may have to make more cuts. He said he “doesn’t want to cut our way to survival, but to grow our way to prosperity”.
- * Will facilities on campus be upgraded soon? Dr. Lassen answered by saying the hurricanes wiped out our resources. HEAF money is used to renovate buildings and they are assessing which buildings need restoring.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Sharlene Hatch to adjourn, Denise Dillard seconded, and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

OPEN MEETING

LAMAR UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE MEETING

**October 11, 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**