

September 19, 2002
Staff Council Meeting Minutes
9:00 – 10:30 in MHC 155

Members present: Rod Kirkwold, Laurie Dimond, Karin Zeller, Michael Andregg, Ruth Danielson, Nate Rolloff, Kathy Sauro, Barb Dunker, Diane Tibodeau, Mary Kleinberg; **Excused:** Brian Clifton

Opening reading/reflection read.

Minutes from August were approved.

Committee Reports

- *Affirmative Action:* No report.
 - *Budget Advisory:* Sept. 24 will be the next meeting.
 - *Charitable Giving:* Barb Dunker is contacting VISION.
 - *Community Day:* No report.
 - *Diversity, Steering:* On Oct. 10th the committee will be presenting to the EVP Cabinet.
 - *Elections:* No report.
 - *Employee Recognition:* Ceremony will be Dec. 13th, 9 – 10:30.
 - *Executive VP Council Meeting:* Staff Council will be invited to their upcoming meeting.
 - *Fringe Benefits:* A meeting was being held Sept 19th at 10 am and will be held every other 3rd Thursday of the month. There was a special meeting on Sept. 17th regarding Tuition Remission. UST was initially “College of St. Thomas” and 4 years ago made the decision to remain listed under a Catholic section. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss expansion into possible larger consortium. Tuition Remission is currently prorated dependant on FTE. Wayne Vernon in the Office of Student Financial Services is a contact for further information.
 - *Minneapolis Operations:* The skyway will be having a “walk through” opening. The parking issues have been resolved. There was discussion that the parking stalls are rather narrow in the Downtown Auto Park.
 - *UCW:* There was a meeting on Sept 18th. The Sr. Pat Kowalski Leadership Award will be going to a staff member this year. This is the 25th Anniversary of coeducation at UST and will be the 10th Anniversary of the LuAnn Dummer Center.
 - *Website:* No report.
 - *Workforce Transition Task Force:* No report.
- Opening celebration was not as well attended and not as well advertised as hoped. Staff Council received a return letter from Fr. Dease regarding the reinstatement of the picnic. It is being worked on but funds need to come from somewhere. Staff Council would like to help in the matter. There

was also discussion on the viewpoint of it being an opening “celebration” rather than a “mass” as all are invited.

- The open constituents meeting has been changed to October 15th. Fliers will be posted and distributed.
- The group talked about topics they would like to have brought forward to Dr. Dwyer and Loren Heeringa when they meet with the Council on September 26. Community building, communication efforts (the “Bulletin”), flexible work schedules, the difference in grades of the positions that exist in the University and what makes the grades differ, and “we/they” were the main topics discussed. The group came up with the topics they feel are the most important, and Laurie Dimond will send an e-mail to Dr. Dwyer and Mr. Heeringa to let them know what the group hopes to discuss with them on the 26th.
- Goal planning for 2002-03 needs to be finished up. Working on increasing the level of communication for staff and offering the Staff Council as a resource in decision-making processes, when appropriate, were discussed. Also added to the goals was raising the visibility and awareness level of Staff Council among our constituents. A goal of “U + Me = We. One community, one goal” was agreed upon. The group discussed its desire to work with administration and others as much as possible since we all (staff, faculty and administration) are interested in what’s best for UST. The possibility of a mentoring program (having new employees to UST contacted by someone already on staff to say hello and offer assistance/answer questions) was discussed.
- The fall meeting with constituents to hear their concerns is scheduled for October 17. There was discussion among the group that the 17th may not be the best date, so this was moved to October 15. It was decided to hold this meeting for only staff members and not invite any other guests. The Staff Council felt that keeping the group to staff members would provide a comfort level which could lead to more staff being willing to voice their concerns, offer solutions, etc. Getting the word out regarding this meeting is important, and Ruth Danielson and Barb Dunker will work together to get information out to staff through as many avenues as available.
- Laurie Dimond shared a constituent’s comments regarding the staff appreciation breakfast. The person that commented thought the event was worthwhile and appreciated being able to attend.
- Meeting was adjourned.

The **next meeting** will be October 15, Open Constituent’s meeting from 11:45 – 1pm in OEC 305 and TMH LL09.

Please feel free to contact a Staff Council member if you have any questions or suggestions.

Council Members

Michael Andregg	Administrative	2-5925	MCG101
Brian Clifton	Food Service	2-6060	MHC257
Ruth Danielson	Academic	2-5982	OSH220
Laurie Dimond	Academic	2-5300	JRC153
Barbara Dunker	Administrative	2-6920	AQU121
Rod Kirkwold	Physical Plant/Sec	2-6542	PHP111
Mary Kleinberg	Auxiliary Services	2-6851	TMH105
Nathan Rolloff	Administrative	2-6506	AQU217
Kathryn Sauro	Minneapolis	2-4380	TMH337
Diane Tibodeau	Academic	2-6321	5016
Karin Zeller	Minneapolis	2-4207	TMH331

Staff Council Mailbox: #4387

Staff Council website: <http://www.stthomas.edu/staffcouncil>

Email: "UST Staff Council"

Respectfully submitted,
Nate Rolloff

Have a comment or concern?? Use this form and mail to Staff Council at mailbox 4387 or direct comments to www.stthomas.edu/staffcouncil. We want to make sure we are addressing your concerns. We are always glad to hear from you.