

## **Staff Council Meeting Minutes**

**May 19, 2004**

**1:30 – 3:00 pm in AQU 210**

**Members present:** Laurie Dimond, Nate Rolloff, Erin Thigpen, Joanne Rhoades, Diane Tibodeau, Meg Krekeler, Rod Kirkwold, Andy Leet, Carol Hagen, Jeremy Busch, Nan Ninteman, Pat Reinhart, Lisa Keiser, Linda Lee Borvansky

**Absent:** Chris Cognetta, Randy Scott, Barb Dunker

Dianne opened with **Reflection**.  
Erin will have reflection next month.

The various committees that the Council has representatives on were listed off and members showed interest in being part of the committees. The members will actually choose and be appointed to committees at the next meeting in June.

There was brief discussion on the open sessions for the AVP of Human Resources. They will be held on both campuses next week and all community members are encouraged to attend.

The Staff Council breakfast was a success overall. There were some late RSVP's that didn't make it in to the drawing unfortunately but plenty of time was given for mailing them in including some time after the posted deadline. There was discussion regarding door prizes for people who couldn't be there. Some of the options mentioned were having two pools of door prizes, one for people present and one for those not attending. Also mentioned was if people couldn't attend, they weren't eligible for door prizes. The discussion arose as there were a number of people who were not in attendance whose names were drawn for the door prizes.

A few changes for next year were discussed as well as getting the room booked. Nate will take on reserving the room for next year. We are looking at April 6<sup>th</sup> for the breakfast so we would also need to book the afternoon of April 5<sup>th</sup> for setup.

Ellen Kennedy attended the breakfast and had more information there about the Abraham Lincoln school. One of the upcoming events will be a book collection for the school.

It was mentioned that a number of Exempt staff would like a breakfast as well. Currently Administration is looking at creating an Exempt Staff Council.

Volunteering opportunities were discussed. Laurie attended the volunteer fair and picked up a number of brochures and other information that she brought to share with the Staff Council. We also talked about VISION trips of the past and what could be done to continue having trips for Staff/Faculty.

Rockie Kainz then joined the Council as we discussed tuition remission issues. One of the issues brought forth under the tuition remission guidelines was that if UST pays another institution for anything (i.e. a room to teach in), it could not be considered tuition remission. One of the other topics that Rockie mentioned was that due to cost impact and budget restraints, UST could not be a part of the "Exchange Program" for this upcoming year. This was the program UST has been looking to get into. The normal tuition remission exchange program will still remain in effect for the upcoming years. The committee has still been meeting to see if there are other options.

Two other issues raised (and Nate will check into these...) was a Staff Council Distribution List in Outlook and then seeing if it would be possible to send the monthly meeting minutes out to that list.

## Committee Reports

- Affirmative Action*: No report. – A new rep will be needed as Jean Gabler's term is up.
- Budget Advisory* The article about parking came out and raised issues. The group meets once a month and the subcommittees also meet.
- Charitable Giving*: Ellen Kennedy was at the breakfast and there will be a book collection.
- Diversity, Steering*: No Report.
- Elections*: Elections happen 2 months prior to the Staff Council breakfast . The committee members send out nominations and count the votes. The question was raised if we could find incentives to vote.
- Fringe Benefits*: The committee meets tomorrow, May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Healthy U*: Lisa currently attends Healthy U meetings and Nate volunteered to start attending as well. Read more at: <http://www.stthomas.edu/humanresources/healthyu/>
- Minneapolis Operations*: Meg stated that the campus is gearing up for the construction of Schulze Hall.
- Mission*: A brief mission statement and vision statement have been given to Fr. Dease. Phase II will commence in the fall. The committee and subcommittees will continue to meet through the fall.
- Treasurer's report*: No report.
- UCW*: No report.
- University Council Meeting*: The next meeting will be June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Website*: Latest minutes are posted. Donna would like a fresh pair of eyes to look at the website. If anyone is interested in taking over the site, she would be alright with that as well.
- Meeting was adjourned.

The **next meeting** will be Wednesday June 16th.

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

## Council Members

Chris Cognetta	Food Service	2-4140	TMH235
Laurie Dimond	Academic	2-5300	JRC153
Barbara Dunker	Administrative	2-6920	AQU121
Rod Kirkwold	Physical Plant/Sec	2-6542	PHP111
Meg Krekeler	Minneapolis	2-4272	TMH331
Joanne Rhoades	Aux. Services	2-4342	TMH105
Nathan Rolloff	Administrative	2-6506	AQU217
Erin Thigpen	Administrative	2-6508	AQU221
Diane Tibodeau	Academic	2-6321	5016
Andy Leet	Academic	2-5600	JRC333
Randy Scott	Minneapolis	2-4100	MOH203

Staff Council Mailbox: #4387

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

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](http://www.stthomas.edu/staffcouncil). We want to make sure we are addressing your concerns. We are always glad to hear from you.