Present: Ernie Buford, Marty Burrows, Erica Caloiero, Jeff Bukowski (Ex-officio), Rodman Cory, Patricia Forguites, Mark Hall, Eileen Kristiansen, Shari Langlois, Jennifer Larsen, Joanne Montanye, Michelle Smith-Mullarkey, Thi Nguyen, Mary Parent, Jon Reidel (Vice-President), Mary Reilly, Anne-Marie Resnik, Rob Rohr, Ida Russin, Todd Stewart, Catherine Symans, Diane Trono (Council Coordinator), Cat Woodward.

Absent: Marilyn Baker, David Ebenstein, Eileen Hanerfeld (Past President), Eric Hoefel, Rita Lemire, Aliza Mansolino Gault, Sharnel Martelle, Sharon Mone, Morgan Phillips, Diane Pontecorvo, Mary Schliecker-Brigham, Beth Walsh (President).

Guests: Clair Burlingham – University Controller, Kathryn Friedman - Executive Director of Diversity and AA/EO, Diane Gaboriault - Asst. Director of Diversity and Equity, and Al Turgeon (DFES Designee)

Jon Reidel, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and introduced today’s guests, Clair Burlingham, Kathryn Friedman and Diane Gaboriault, who then proceeded to address the Council.

Clair Burlingham, University Controller, addressed the Council with a brief introduction about herself and her position.

Kathryn Friedman, Executive Director of Diversity and AA/EO, and Diane Gaboriault, Asst. Director of Diversity and Equity addressed the Council on AA/EO and the upcoming Campus Climate Survey. They explained the timeline to develop and roll-out the survey, recently approved by President Fogel, and announced that the actual survey will distributed in February 2010. They asked that two Council representatives consider participating in the development of the 2010 Climate Survey. Jeff volunteered to get this announcement out to all members of the Council and that Beth Walsh would reply with two appointments shortly.

Acceptance of Minutes – The April 7, 2009 minutes were approved as corrected, adding Zhanna Gordon to the list of guests.

Announcements & Correspondence – Jeff Bukowski

The June Staffline submission deadline as May 15th; the Council’s fifth annual Golf Tournament is July 31st at Links at Lang Farm and sign-up forms are available in the May issue of Staffline and also on the Staff Council website under Discounts and Events.

Election Update – Jeff Bukowski
Council elections are still ongoing in a couple of units, however, several have concluded: CALS’ new representative as of July 1st is Scott Lewins from Plant & Soil Science; Jennifer Larsen, in CAS, has agreed to serve a second term; COM’s new representative in their Clinical Sciences subdivision is Sean O’Brien from Surgery; Erica Coloiero, in CNHS, has agreed to serve a second term; Michelle Smith Mullarkey, with DFES Capital Planning Mgmt., has agreed to serve a second term; Todd Stewart, in Extension, has agreed to serve a second term. The Offices of the President and Provost had a 47% voter participation rate in their election for a new Council representative. Nelson Sears, from LGBTQA Services, was elected among four candidates in this unit.

PRESIDENT’S UPDATE – Jon Reidel, Vice President

Jon reported that eight members of Staff Council and the Staff Council Administrator, participated in the Interim Provost Search, and interviewed three internal candidates. It was reported that the Council participants provided President Fogel with summary of their findings.

Several Council members met with a member of The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) team that was on campus to evaluate UVM for reaccreditation. Jon and others reported that the NEASC team member they met with was quite impressed with the Staff Council’s website, stating that he felt the Council appeared to be the most organized of any Staff Council they had come across. The NEASC team member who met with Council members was quoted as saying, “… compared to other regional colleges that were more dependent on State and Endowment funding, UVM was positioned very well financially to come out of this economic turndown.”

Jon reported the FY 2010 salary increase for unrepresented staff will be announced at the upcoming Board of Trustees on May 15th. Beth Walsh has provided a report to the BOT regarding the Council’s activities these past few months. She will additionally address the Council’s concerns regarding funding for the Wellness Program and provide a report on Council elections. Mary Reilly, Chair of the Salary and Budget Committee asked that Beth take this opportunity to address the second part of her Committee’s Letter of Recommendation to the BOT; requesting new emphasis be placed on the importance of performance evaluation process.

Additional recommendations from several Council members emphasized the need for supervisors to have performance evaluations as well. It was suggested that Survey Monkey provided a 360 Review Process for Council members’ consideration. Further discussion on this matter was referred to Education and Professional Development Committee.

Jeff reported that he and Beth Walsh met with Richard Cate last week and reviewed the Council’s letter of support for the Wellness Ambassador’s petition. A decision regarding future programming for Staff wellness programs around campus, is pending until after the May 15th Board meeting.

BYLAW CHANGE REQUEST
- EMPLOYEE ENVIRONMENT AND FACILITIES’ STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Council voted unanimously to approve the Employee Environment and Facilities’ Statement of Purpose in the Council’s Bylaws. The current language: “Make recommendations to ensure employee health and safety and the development and efficient use of university facilities including parking and transportation” will now read: “Make recommendations to enhance employee health, safety and comfort, and encourage efficient use of University resources.”
OTHER BUSINESS

The Office of the President has informed the Staff Council that for the sake of economic austerity, they will not be sponsoring the Council’s end-of-year luncheon this June. As a result, the Council embraced the idea of having a Pot-Luck at their June 2nd meeting and will invite all volunteer Committee members, elected representatives, and extend this invitation to include President Fogel, Provost Hughes, Vice President Richard Cate, Chief of Staff Gary Derr, and Al Turgeon. A sign-up for the Pot-Luck luncheon will be distributed shortly. Diane will also confirm location of the June 2nd meeting, as concerns about bringing food into the Davis Center were expressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.