THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT STAFF COUNCIL
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS
Tuesday, June 5, 2012
12:00 noon – 1:30 pm
Waterman Building, Memorial Lounge

COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Compensation, Benefits and Budget Committee (CBB) met on May 10, 2012. Much of the meeting centered on a discussion with Bob Vaughan, Director of Capital Planning and Management. The Committee discussed the process for identifying and approving large capital projects, then talked about how projects are categorized, approved and ranked in terms of their necessity and strategic importance. Funding is always an important part of the equation and those projects with significant donor funding are given priority.

Q: Will future new construction take up green space or will other buildings come down?

We are beginning a project to look at all of the wood frame structures on campus. Many of these are inefficient buildings that cost us a fair amount to maintain. We are wanting to be strategic in thinking about what we need versus what can be moved or taken down. With regard to the new academic building being discussed as a priority, no new Green space would be used. Construction would be on the south side of the Bailey-Howe Library in space that is already impermeable surface.

Q: Why does Deferred Maintenance not have a higher priority than new construction?

Project priority is based on overall Institutional needs and funds availability.

Bob talked about construction values and the cost of projects. If materials are recycled then labor costs are higher, but the University is living out its values. We seek to support local vendors and purchase local products whenever possible—which is good for the community, good for the environment, and cuts down on shipping costs. Sometimes this may result in somewhat higher project costs, but we work hard to balance funds with priorities. Part of that balancing act means that often we are not able to do things we would like to do and we have to make mid-course corrections in order to keep projects within budget.

In other business, The committee discussed access to professional development. The question arose whether there are specific guidelines around released time and flexible schedules for professional development, or whether it is completely at the supervisor’s discretion. It was agreed that this should be a matter for discussion if time permits at the committee’s June meeting.

The Committee’s next meeting will take place on Thursday, June 14, 2012 from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon in the Faculty Senate Conference Room, 327 Waterman. You can send questions, concerns, suggestions and/or ideas to the committee by e-mailing Staff.Council@uvm.edu. For more information about the CBB please visit www.uvm.edu/~stffcncl/?Page=cbb.html.

OUTREACH, ASSESSMENT AND UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Outreach, Assessment and University Engagement Committee (OAUE) met on May 16, 2012.

The committee reviewed the work it had completed over the past year on the Staff Council informational flyer, social media, the website, and watermarked.

The majority of the conversation focused on preparations for the Staff Council Survey that is tentatively scheduled to be distributed again in spring 2013. The committee will begin work to engage Institutional Research and those who worked on the Survey in 2011 to identify which questions should be asked again for longitudinal informational purposes and if there are specific issues or concerns that need to be further addressed with questions.

The committee also discussed what would need to be done streamline the Contact Sheet process currently in
place so that more efficient tracking of question, concerns, and issues can be done.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 from 1:00 to 2:00 PM, Staff Council Conference Room, 305 Waterman. You can send questions, concerns, suggestions, and/or ideas to the OAUE committee by emailing Staff.Council@uvm.edu. For more information about the OAUE please visit the committee website at http://www.uvm.edu/~stffcncl/?oaue.html

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & OCCUPATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The Personal and Professional Development & Occupational Environment Committee did not meet in May.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 from 11:00 am to noon in 161 Billings Library (Learning Services Conference Room). You can send questions, concerns, suggestions and/or ideas to the committee by emailing mailto:Staff.Council@uvm.edu. For more information about the PPDOE please visit the committee website at http://www.uvm.edu/~stffcncl/?Page=ppdoe.html

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee met on Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

An update was given regarding the funds available in the Social Committee’s income/expense account with projections of costs for several upcoming events during the summer.

These include the Shopping Bus trip to Settler’s Green Village Outlets in North Conway, NH on June 9th, the Spirit of Ethan Allen Mystery Cruise Cruise on July 19th, the Lake Monsters Game and BBQ scheduled for Thursday, August 2nd, and the 8th Annual Staff Council Golf Outing scheduled for Friday, August 10th. A brief conversation about projected costs of the Champlain Valley Fair Discount Ticket sales and the Holiday Bazaar were also discussed.

The 2nd Annual Staff Council Art Exhibit will be held in September 2012. Reservations are now being taken for staff to showcase their work.

The June meeting will be replaced by a celebratory lunch in recognition of all the work of the committee members this past year. You can send your questions, concerns, suggestions to the committee by emailing Staff.Council@uvm.edu.

For more information about the Social Committee please visit the committee website at http://www.uvm.edu/~stffcncl/?Page=social.html.