UVM STAFF COUNCIL  
September 1, 2009  
Livak Ballrooms  
Davis Student Center  
12:05 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: Marilyn Baker, Lisa Blanchet, Ernie Buford, Jeff Bukowski (Ex-officio), Marty Burrows, Erica Caloiro, Rodman Cory, Patricia Forguites, Terri Goddard, Mark Hall, Eileen Kristiansen, Jennifer Larsen, Rita Lemire, Aliza Mansolino Gault, Sharon Mone, Joanne Montanye, Thi Nguyen, Sean O’Brien, Mary Parent, Jon Reidel (Vice-President), Rob Rohr, Mary Schliecker-Brigham, Nelson Sears, Michelle Smith, Todd Stewart, Marie Tiemann, Diane Trono (Council Coordinator), Beth Walsh (President), Susan Williford, and Cat Woodward.

ABSENT: Carol Gross, Eric Hoefel, Scott Lewins, Sharnel Martelle, and Mary Reilly.

GUESTS: Gary Derr, VP Executive Operations; Jon Porter, Director Center Health & Wellbeing; Annie Stevens, Asst. VP Student and Campus Life.

Beth Walsh called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and introduced guest speakers Jon Porter, Director of the Center for Health and Wellbeing and Annie Stevens, Asst. VP for Student and Campus Life.

H1N1 FLU PREPARATIONS AT UVM – Jon Porter and Annie Stevens

Jon Porter and Annie Stevens explained how UVM has and is preparing for the H1N1 Flu. They emphasized their efforts are focused on campus and student prevention education. They expect this illness will affect as much as 30 to 40% of the population. Informational memorandums have been sent to all UVM employees, students and their parents. As more is learned, more information will be made available. Specific recommendations around prevention and instructions for sick employees are available online at uvm.edu/~emergency/?Page=h1n1.html&SM=h1n1menu.html. Jon and Annie asked that all questions and suggestions be sent to pandemicresponse@uvm.edu.

Aliza Mansolino Gault, College of Medicine Council Representative, announced the COM’s Community Medical School has scheduled an information session titled, The H1N1 Virus: Understanding Pandemic Influenza on Tuesday October 20th from 6-7:00 PM, in Carpenter Auditorium at the UVM Given Medical Building. This session is free and open to the public. Registration is requested in advance by calling 847-2886 or online at med.uvm.edu/cms.
ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – The August 4, 2009 minutes were approved as written.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE – Jeff Bukowski

The Staff Council Office will be moving shortly. The new office will be located down the hall in Waterman 313 and we will retain Waterman 305 as our conference room. The deadline for Staffline submissions for the October issue is September 18th; Staff Appreciation Week will take place September 21-25; Ski Season Passes are now available through the Staff Council’s website; a Boston Bus Trip is planned for September 19th – and there are only a couple of seats that remain available.

The Staff Council Retreat is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th (8-12:00 PM lunch included) in the Livak Ballrooms. The agenda will be distributed shortly.

UVM’s Office of Procurement has notified Staff Council that AT&T Wireless will be extending a discount to UVM employees. Once the discount details, including a discount code, are available we will announce it in Staffline.

Jeff also informed Council representatives that he was working to identify the primary contact or ‘keeper’ of each unit’s listserv to aid representatives in their efforts to both report out and request feedback from their constituents.

PRESIDENT’S UPDATE – Beth Walsh

Council President Beth Walsh reported hosting a Staff Council Outreach table in the Given Courtyard on August 20th, and was assisted by several College of Medicine Council representatives. Although she’s uncertain if these outreach efforts attracted new members, it does inform and encourage staff to become more aware of the Council’s efforts.

Beth shared her positive experiences as a participant in Move-In Day and as a member of the platform party at Convocation. This past month’s meetings, attended by Beth, included the Campus Leadership forum where she asked administration to continue to have frequent communication with staff; discussed parking issues on campus; shared the idea of a shared-leave pool; requested a policy promoting consistency in evaluations and the determination of merit pay; and relayed Council efforts to gain release time for grant-funded employees – enabling them to participate on Staff Council. Beth, Jon Reidel and Jeff Bukowski will be meeting with President Fogel and Gary Derr next week. She invited Council members to share any issues or questions they want brought forward at this meeting.

Rita Lemire and Beth Walsh have agreed to serve on the committee to recruit UVM’s next Director of Parking and Transportation. Beth stated she would welcome recommended questions to pose to those interviewing for this position. She explained she intended to focus on Parking and Transportation issues of transparency, policy and procedure, and equity.
SGA President Bryce Jones and Vice-President Kate Ash met with Beth, Jon, and Jeff to discuss future student/staff opportunities for collaboration as well as joint communications. This meeting is unprecedented as well as the invitation extended to SC President Beth Walsh, to address a future meeting of SGA senators. Beth has written a welcome letter to students on behalf of Staff Council that SGA has agreed to distribute.

Beth also wished to inform everyone that Nelson Sears with LGBTQA Services has been appointed as the staff representative to serve on the Campus Climate Working Group for 2009-2010.

APPROVAL OF CHAIRS

The Council approved two Staff Council Executive Board nominees, Rodman Cory (2nd term) and Cat Woodward. Unanimous approval was also given to the 2009-2010 Council Committee chairpersons and vice-chairs elected by each committee. The chairs for each committee are: Rita Lemire – Benefits; Joanne Montanye – Communications; Todd Stewart – Education & Professional Development; Michelle Smith – Employee Environment & Facilities; Sharron Mone – Internal Affairs; Marie Tiemann – Recreation; Rob Rohr – Rules & Election; Mary Reilly – Salary & Budget.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE BYLAW CHANGE

The Council voted to change a Council Bylaw affecting the term of service for the Nominating Committee members - aligning these appointments with the Staff Council president’s term.

Changed From:
Article X. Nominating Committee
C. Term: The Nominating Committee shall be named as soon as possible after the start of the new Council year, and shall serve as necessary throughout the duration of that year.

Changed To:
C. Term: The Nominating Committee shall be named as soon as practical following the regular election of a new Staff Council president, and shall serve for two years. If it becomes necessary to replace a committee member, any individual appointed mid-term shall serve for the duration of the original two-year term. Those appointed to serve on the Nominating Committee while serving as Staff Council representatives may continue to serve on the Nominating Committee if their term on the Council expires, provided they have not been removed from membership under the provision of Article V.F.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Council approved the Human Resource Services’ proposed list of 2010 holidays for UVM employees.
President Fogel will be the guest speaker at the next Council meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 12:05 to 1:30 p.m. in the Livak Ballrooms, 4th Floor Davis Student Center. He has been asked to address the University’s current fiscal status and expectations for FY11. Council members are asked to inform their units of this opportunity to share their questions for administration. Council members are encouraged to pass these along to the Staff Council Office in advance of this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.