

USF St. Petersburg
STAFF Council – General Meeting
Thursday, September 20, 2007

Present: Yoli Lanuza, Sheri Beaudreau, Michael Williams, Lori Anderson, Jean Ferguson, Audrey Cowdrick, Jeremy Thompson

Call to Order: Michael called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Ashok Dhingra, Regional Vice-Chancellor for Administration & Finance.

Previous Business: The Council voted to accept the minutes from the August 17th meeting as read.

President's Report:

- Coquina Club – Soft opening is scheduled for Monday 9/24/07.
- Deans' support solicited in encouraging STAFF employees to participate in the Council. Michael will be sending letters to the Deans to identify the STAFF employees in their areas.
- No comment has been heard from the Union regarding pay raises. Michael has spoken with Dr. K. White regarding the pay issue. With the pay freeze, the mass exodus of employees, the bringing in of new employees at or near the rate of pay that tenured employees are currently making, discord has occurred because employees feel that length of valued service and experience should count for something.

Upcoming Events:

- Cultural Awareness study happening this week at the Williams House.
- Bulls vs West Virginia game; tailgate tickets are still available at the Cashier's office in Bayboro Hall. Bulls zone at Gate 'D' - Southside of Stadium, bring your own chairs.
- Campus Directory now on line.
- Campus Calendar now on the Web.
- PAWS on parade, 10/20/07 at 8:30am to be held at North Shore Park.
- Hispanic Heritage kicks off this month.
- Festival of Reading is scheduled for 10/27/07. Volunteers are needed for setting up the event on 10/27/07 and after this event.

Committee Reports:

- Holiday Event Committee has been established, contact Michele Holton.
- Faculty-Staff Lounge Renovation Committee has been established. The lounge is located in DAV-203; money for a TV has been allocated for this lounge.

Guest Speaker Dr. Dhingra:

Dr. Dhingra spoke to the STAFF council regarding budget concerns and how they affect our campus.

- No cuts will be made on retention or recruitment of students.
- Quality of instruction will be maintained, no layoffs of Faculty, Staff or Instructors.
- Work loads for Faculty & Instructors will not be increased to the point that it will affect research or scholarship.
- Travel budget has been reduced.

Dr. Dhingra has asked that if there is a significant item (within his power of control) that is affecting STAFF members, please present the problem at the next STAFF council meeting so that it can be brought to his attention. The problem(s) must be a Top Priority for all STAFF members.

Adjournment: Official Staff Meeting was adjourned at 10:18.