

**Staff Advisory Committee
Teams Meeting
September 10, 2020**

Members Present: Angie Denson, Margo Dirkson, Shana Eads, Amy Foster, Carrie Harris, Susan Henry, Corinne Johnson, Bethany Jones, Andrea Kruszka, Charlene McClain, Kim Meredith, Robert Scantland, Michael Sliger, Angie Wells

Members Absent: Kathy Faulkner, Michelle Holm

Others Present: President Oldham, Lee Wray, Leslie Hardin, Donna Schrock

Summary:

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Non-Faculty Grievance Pool

Approval to Discontinue Idea Box

Nominations for Vice-Chair

Comments by the President

Proceedings:

Chairperson Angie Wells called the Teams meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Introductions were made by all members present. Susan Henry motioned to approve the agenda. Carrie Harris seconded. APPROVED.

Susan Henry motioned to approve the minutes from May 7, 2020. Carrie Harris seconded. APPROVED.

Leslie Hardin presented the Non-Faculty Grievance Pool. This pool of employees is put together each year and when there is a grievance hearing we select from these employees to participate. It is a cross section across campus based on EEO categories, how jobs are classified. Andrea Kruszka motioned to approve list of employees. Susan Henry seconded. APPROVED.

Angie Wells questioned the need for the suggestion box any longer since there are different avenues the students and staff can take when making a suggestion. Susan Henry agreed the need is no longer there. If a suggestion is made to one of the committee members it will be brought to the committee for discussion. Susan Henry made a motion to discontinue the Idea Box. Angie Denson seconded. APPROVED.

Chairperson Angie Wells opened the floor up for nominations for the Vice-Chair of the committee. Duties include: if the Chair is not able to be at a meeting the Vice-Chair will assume the duties of the Chair and will automatically assume the role of Chairperson when the Chairperson's term has ended.

Susan Henry nominated Andrea Kruszka as Vice-Chair. Bethany Jones seconded. No other nominations were given. Andrea accepted the nomination. APPROVED.

President Oldham expressed his appreciation to everyone for the amazing job we have done on campus in handling the COVID situation. The Tech Return to Campus website gives up to date numbers on how many COVID-19 cases there are on campus. We have 41 active cases. We have stayed around 40-50 active cases on campus. Currently we have no students living on campus who are positive for COVID. Our students are doing a great job in complying with what we ask of them. There is a substantial list of accomplishments that were completed around campus to get us where we are. We don't want to underestimate the potential and need stay diligent about it. They have a contingency plan in place if we need to do something else. The key work for this semester is Flexibility.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel Fall Sports. There was too much uncertainty on the conditions. There are budgetary issues related to COVID as well. The state had to cut their spending, which affected our anticipated revenue. We had to do budget restructuring. Unfortunately, we are no longer able to offer salary increases. Fall enrollment is up slightly but mix of students is different. Twenty percent more graduate students from last year. We are still hesitant about Spring Semester so taking a very prudent financial position to stay in a strong situation regardless of what happens.

Capital Projects on campus have continued. With the state reductions we have slowed down on the Engineering project. It is still in the design phase and hope to break ground in a year from now. The Burnett Student Recreation and Fitness Center opened up this summer and a highlight to the campus. Some parts are still closed off due to COVID. The Science building is on track to open up later this year. There are two large lecture halls that are currently being used in the Stonecipher part of the building. The new West Patio on the University Center should be done next month. Bruner is under renovation and Cooper and Dunn are about done. We will start on Peachtree in the Spring.

President Oldham opened in up for questions. Susan Henry asked when the Dixie avenue transformation was going to start? He replied, we are in design now but in the next 1-2 years we hope to start. It will minimize the vehicular traffic and make it more pedestrian friendly for students. Angie Wells asked what as being done with the old Fit Center? President Oldham replied that it is being reprogrammed. It is jointly being used by Athletics and Exercise Science. Instructional purposes and practice gyms. Amy Foster asked if they were going to do away with the swimming pool? Oldham; we have closed down the pool as for now due to expenses. No final decision on removing it or not.

Other such matters: Susan Henry let people know that the guidelines for campus events are listed in our Return to Tech for employees and students. If any student wants to reserve a space they will need to go through EMS and she will make sure they are following all the guidelines before they can even use the space. They will need to submit a COVID plan. Please direct them to her so she can explain the guidelines. It does not reflect on EMS what the occupancy currently is for each room.

Susan Henry motioned to adjourn. Andrea Kruszka seconded. Adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Donna Schrock, recorder