

## **Staff Advisory Committee**

**October 31, 2019**

**Members Present:** Shana Eads, Kathy Faulkner, Amy Foster, Kim Fox, Carrie Harris, Susan Henry, Michelle Holm, Kim Meredith, Phyllis Miller, Matt Nisbet, Robert Scantland, Angie Wells

**Others Present:** President Oldham, Lee Wray, Dr. Leslie Crickenberger, Donna Schrock, Amanda Beaty

### **Summary:**

Approval of agenda

Approval of minutes (September 11, 2019)

Comments on Idea Box

Blackhawks fly staff

### **Proceedings:**

Chairperson Carrie Harris called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in the President's Conference Room. Passed out copies of agenda, Sept 11 minutes and procedures. Susan Henry approved the agenda for October 31, 2019. Kim Meredith seconded. Motion APPROVED.

Michelle Holm motioned to approve the September 11, 2019 minutes. Matt Nisbett seconded. Motion APPROVED.

Harris read the comments from the Idea Box: One from the Spring semester; putting a microwave in Swoops. This was resolved by putting a microwave in the student lounge in the RUC. Comments for the Fall semester included lowering tuition, a campus chiropractor and for something different in regards to food in the RUC other than sandwiches. Examples given were a Taco Bell or Panda Express.

Harris questioned whether we should continue to be in charge of the Idea Box, if so, what would the procedure be? Susan Henry volunteered to be responsible for getting the ideas out of the box and distributing to the relevant departments. Henry will report back to the committee on how the idea was resolved. All agreed.

The Blackhawks will be here on November 12, 2019 as part of a public relations effort with the National Guard and Veteran's Day festivities. There are 8 slots available for committee members to take approximately a 20-minute flight at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. There will be a short training beforehand. The following people signed up to go: Angie Wells,

Michelle Holm, Leslie Crickenberger, Susan Henry, Kim Meredith, Amanda Beaty, Carrie Harris and Matt Nisbet.

### **Comments by the President:**

President Oldham thanked everyone for the Fall Preview Day. It was a great success with a lot of support from staff throughout campus. There were approximately 1,500 total visitors, 600+ prospective students and 400 faculty and staff helped. A big thank you to everyone.

We are in the early round of next year's budget discussion. Last year we were number one in the state for the funding formula. This year we will be number two. Still at the top with a little additional funding dollars. Comes out of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission recommendations. THEC will need to approve and then it will go to the Governor and legislature. We will know more in early February and anticipate a fairly good outcome.

The proposed new Engineering Building is the number one priority of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission so it's almost a certainty to receive full funding. We may see construction start in about a year from now on the new Engineering Building.

President Oldham updated us on the construction on campus. The new Fitness Center is scheduled to open up late Spring, early April. For the Science Building; the southeast building is the lecture hall that is scheduled to be open for classes next Fall. The rest of the science building will be ready to start moving in next October. There will be an Einstein Bagel shop in the new Science Building.

He anticipates within the next year they will start redoing Peachtree and Stadium Drive on campus. It will improve the interior of the campus.

We were visited by The Men in Black – some Halloween fun.

There is a New Signage Plan that will be all encompassing. It will include major gateway signs as you come in campus, new signing plan for in front of buildings and way finding signage.

The President commented that the next board meeting is December 5<sup>th</sup> and they will ask for approval for the proposal of salary increases that would go into effect in January. It will probably be a 1% salary pool and a 1% bonus pool.

There is a search going on for a new vice-president of Research and Economic Development. We are also beginning a search for the vice-president of Student Affairs. Homecoming activities are November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. President Oldham invited everyone to come out to the third annual Lighting of the Quad on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. We expect a couple thousand people.

### **Such other matters**

Susan Henry asked President Oldham if Exercise Science will stay where they are? President Oldham replied that they will reprogram the current fitness center for use by Exercise Science and for Athletics and will renovate when funds become available.

Carrie Harris mentioned that all of the new members received letters that their terms were for a three-year commitment but it is actually for a two-year commitment. Harris also mentioned that our procedures state there should be a vice-chairperson so at our next meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup> we will nominate and vote for a vice-chairperson.

Susan Henry brought to our attention we can no longer order cleaning supplies on Procard and may have to pay it back personally if we have purchased in the past. SSC is responsible for buying paper towels and cleaning supplies used in the classrooms. Susan will talk with Dr. Stinson and Internal Audit to clarify and report back. Susan does not feel that we should have to pay it back personally if we did not know that we could not purchase and have been purchasing for many years. We will need to talk with SSC if they are not cleaning our offices as needed.

Angie Wells motioned to adjourn. Shana Eads seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Donna Schrock, Recorder