



Staff Council General Meeting
Tuesday, May 17th, 2016
UNEA 102a Acacia Room, 2:00PM – 3:30PM

I. Call to order **2:04 pm**

II. Guest Speaker – Bookstore – **Nando Padula**

- The bookstore has been under Follet for several years now.
- VPBA runs a survey for faculty, staff and students and pricing at the bookstore is constantly seen as on the main topics of concern.
- The reason for the presentation is to provide more information on all the promotions and different support that the bookstore has to offer
 - o Textbook price match program is a program that launched in November 2015. This program provides the opportunity to the students to buy their book at the lowest price available as seen on Amazon, Chegg, or other textbook companies.
 - o Textbook Rental is another program which has been active for 7 years. This program brings savings of up to 80% on used books and 50% on new books. So far around \$1.5 million have been saved.
 - o Cash for Books, is the other program available which technically works all the time as the bookstore holds a contract with the university. The university maintains a log which informs which books will be used and their price, with that information students can sell back the books to the bookstore for up to 50% of the cost.
 - o UTEP Follet Discover, is an electronic method that is now being used to submit textbook adoptions.
 - o Campus Collections, is the new website that allows any staff member to shop for anything specific to UTEP that the department might need.
- Staff receive a 15% on all the purchases as long as they show their UTEP ID.
- Bookstore Promotions
 - o T-shirts
 - o Discounts
- The idea of the presentation is to know, “How can we meet your needs and serve you better?”

III. Approval of previous meeting minutes

- David Porras carries first motion to approve minutes, Karla Iscapa seconds the motion. Everyone in favor

IV. Executive reports

A. Chair – **Ben Carnevale**

a. General announcements

i. Spring Commencement review 2016

1. Pictures of commencement were posted on the Facebook page to show the big number of staff members that make it possible.
2. In addition the pictures will be also posted on the upcoming newsletter

ii. Presidential Staff Forum

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1. The forum will take place next Thursday at the UGLC 126 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
 - a. There was a change in the venue, but all updates have been applied on the advertisement
 2. There has been a list created with possible requests and topics that will be asked at the forum
 - a. Pay for Admins
 - b. The increase of workload due to PeopleSoft
 - c. Healthcare
 - d. Staff and Alumni
 - e. Unfair distribution of merit increases
 - f. Summer schedule
- B. Vice Chair- **Paul Adame**
- a. Textbook Scholarship
 - i. No update
- C. Treasurer's report – **N/A**
- a. Account update
 - i. NO UPDATE

V. Old Business

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Elections – **Maria Hernandez**
- a. Elections for Orange Districts – Nominations procedures
 - i. The website will now show you the colors representing each district.
 - ii. The first week of June will begin with the nominations. July will be for campaign and August will be the voting period.
- B. Communication – **Ben Carnevale**
- a. June newsletter content
 - i. The newsletter will contain information in regards to the forum and updates. In addition to that, information about elections will be provided and announcements for the textbook scholarship.
 - b. Website modifications
 - i. As mentioned in the elections part. The website was modified to now demonstrate the colors that each district represents.
- C. Research Committee – Parking and Transportation Update – **Ben Carnevale**
- a. Questions submitted to VPBA
 - i. After the questions submitted to the VPBA a phone call was received in which they are denying all assistance to Staff Council in regards to Parking and transportation
 - b. Meeting request to VP Richard Aduato
 - i. At this moment because of the phone call received a meeting with VP Richard Aduato has been requested to receive clarification on such behavior. As soon as a meeting is set up the Executive Committee will have more information for all constituents.
- D. Research Committee – Tuition Assistance for Family Members Update – **Karla Iscapa**
- a. Updated progress on research
 - i. A meeting on the 19th will be held to do the final paper. The possibility of an endowment account is looking to be the best option. Looking for sponsors after not finding any support from UT Systems makes more sense to make the project a possibility.

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E. EAC – Karla Iscapa Vice Chair – **Karla Iscapa**

- a. Karla will be attending to EAC on June 28-29 for the summer meeting
- b. Elections will be held for new executive committee

VII. New Business – NO NEW BUSINESS

VIII. MISC (comments, announcements, accomplishments, etc.)

- 1- The department of Labor has a new rule which will possibly be release in the next few days that will now increase the salary from \$23,000 to \$47,000 for employees to be able to receive paid overtime. More information will be provided as more details come out.
- 2- Bylaws have been completed and will be submitted to the Executive Council for voting.

IX. Adjournment

- First motion to adjourn by Karla Iscapa, second by Delia Heras. All in favor 3:31 pm.

Attendees: Patsy Achim, Paul Adame, Ben Carnevale, Ana Diaz, Carlos Gonzalez, Maria Hernandez, Delia Heras, Karla Iscapa, Maria Placencia, David Porras, Lourdes Sanchez.

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