

Staff Council

Meeting Minutes

3-18-2009

I. Call to order

Luke Henry called to order the regular meeting of the **APSU Staff Council** at **2:00 P.M.** on **March 18, 2009** in **MUC 307**.

II. Roll call

Jonathan Bates, Patrice Cheatham, Melissa Conwell, Don Ferguson, Luke Henry, Brenda Hunt, Delilah Powell-Smith, Sharley Ross

III. Announcements by President Hall

President Hall discussed the compensation plan stating that a letter has been sent to TBR about Austin Peay's intentions. The official plan will be completed in June. He also stated that the Compensation Committee will be conducting presentations around campus so that everyone understands the proposed plan.

President Hall also discussed the budget situation. As it currently stands we are awaiting the Governor's budget to see what allocations have been made. President Hall believes that there will be stimulus money available which will offset any state cuts which could be up to 20%. This means that Austin Peay will need to develop a three year plan in order to address the budget cuts and to account for a lack of stimulus money in the future. He said that there are many factors to be considered such as enrollment growth and tuition increases, which have to be considered before they can finalize the long term plan.

Don Ferguson asked about the credit hour cap. President Hall said that there was no final decision on whether it will be phased in or if it will happen all at once. He said that they are trying to balance the costs of the courses between full time and part time students.

Jonathan Bates asked about energy saving ideas and the Green Committee. President Hall stated that outside consultants had been brought in to work with all TBR institutions to implement energy saving changes. He said that they had just received the report from the consultants and that Austin Peay is currently looking at the suggestions which will pay for themselves in order to go ahead and begin implementing the changes. The Green Committee is currently looking at ways people can save energy and should have proposals by late fall.

Patrice Cheatham asked about increasing transfer student enrollment and whether or not this would help raise funding from the state. President Hall said that it would since the majority of transfer students would be enrolled in upper level courses.

Melissa Conwell suggested that a way to help not only transfer students but all students was to have some sort of “buddy” or mentoring program where a staff member paired up with a student in order to be their point of contact for the campus. This would provide a more personalized interaction with the student and help with student success and retention.

IV. Old Business

- a) Staff Appreciation Event – This is tentatively planned for Friday, May 15 with service awards being given out at 10:30 and lunch being served from 11:30-1:30 with other activities interspersed throughout the day. The tentative location at this time is Memorial Health’s front lawn and intramural field. Luke said that he would send out an email to ask for volunteers and Carol Clark is also looking for volunteers outside of Staff Council.

V. New Business

- a) Banner Scheduling – At this time in Banner, there is a screen that lists which classrooms are being used during the day and when they will be empty. However, this screen does not account for groups such as Middle College, Upward Bound, or others who may have scheduled the rooms through Andy Kean’s office. Luke will send a memo to everyone who schedules classrooms to see if there is a way to have everything listed in one place.
- b) Library and Current Student Information – Jonathan Bates from the library asked if there was a way for the Library to have current information (addresses, emails, and phone numbers) for students in order to be able to send out overdue notices, etc. Currently they get the information at the beginning of the semester but it is not updated on a regular basis. Thus, if a student’s information changes, the library has no way of contacting them. It was suggested that they simply ask for updates throughout the semester, but there was concern that these information “dumps” could possibly overwrite information that has been put into the Library’s system.

Adjournment

Luke Henry adjourned the meeting at **3:05**.

Minutes submitted by: Sharley Ross

Minutes approved by: