Appalachian State University Staff Senate Minutes

Tuesday, August 12, 2014
124 RCOE

Announcements:
Still NEED Chair Elect – Consider getting involved!
Freshman Move in – August 15th
Convocation – September 4th, 2014

Attendance:

Present: Berry, Elaine; Booker, Jeremy; Broere, Courtney; Burleson, Sheila; Church, Lynn; Dale, Patty; Deas, Kathy; Dehus, Sydney; Eckerd, Monique; Greene, Carole; Hicks, Loyd; Hicks, Sandy; Hyle, Eddie; Jones, Kim; Mann, Kathy; Marshburn, Jason; McCaffrey, Kerri; Mitchell, Andrea; Paige, Russell; Roach, Roy; Sanders, Amy; Sbarbaro, Katherine; Scarborough, Barbara; Seatz, Janet; Snook, Kevin; Smith, Janice; Tedder, Jamie; Tibbett, Debi; Trivette, Cindy; Tye, Torrey; Whittington, Kathy; Young, Vickie; Ziegler, Cathy

Excused: Anderson, Carol; Grant, Tony; Ray, Kathy; Richards, Brooke; Young, Vickie

Absent: Barbee, Diana; Bentley, Teresa; Calderwood, Barbara; Carpenter, Erin; Carter, Kim; Carter, Leslie; Chambers, Robin; Childers, Erin; Craft, Betsy; Eldreth, Chelsie; Eller, Peggy; Gill-Johnson, Sali; Gragg, Debbie; Gryder, Alice; Harmon, Kara; Harrison, Kathy; Hoffman, Kate; Huffman, Julie; Hyle, Kristin; Jamison, David; Kane, Sheryl; Kuhn, Dawn; Love, Amy; Lovin, Denise; Lowenberg, Diane; Lunsford, Mark; Lyons, Danna; Marsh, Clinton; McCormick, Marty; Merrell, Donna; Moore, Lisa; Parnell, Regina; Perry, Amanda; Piazza, Joseph; Probst, Elizabeth; Ragan, Greg; Reese, Joyce; Riedl, Tess; Saunders, Shannon; Scott, Cathy; Travis, David;
Triplett, Debbie; Walker, Pam; Wallin, Charlie; Waters, Robin; Watson, Lisa; Wolcott, Kelley; Wyatt, Jeni

Visitors: Connie Woolard, NCDE; Lacy Vickery, LTS; Debbie Langley, Conf-Camp Services; Meredith Linden, Conf-Camp Services

Meeting was called to order by Amy Sanders at 1:35 p.m.

Amy welcomed our many guests and introduced our new Director of HR, Mark Bachmeier, and Randy Edwards, Chief of Staff...and a very special welcome to Chancellor Sheri N. Everts.

Chancellor Everts stated that for her first three months here at Appalachian State University she was just listening. She has visited with the different departments and divisions and asked questions and “just listened”. Her vision forAppState will come later, it is too soon for her to make any determinations about the future of the campus.

Some of the questions that Chancellor Everts asked were:

“What makes Appalachian special...that you would not want changed?”

“What concerns do you have?”

“What makes your job more difficult?”

“What makes you job where you never want to leave?”

Some of the senators responded with answers:

“How decisions are made to spend monies for renovations?” Seems more projects than monies, with safety of Faculty/Staff/Students being the first concern”

“The Appalachian Way, a special feeling with a sense of community.”

“Problems with fewer people being asked to do more, making it difficult to get the job done”

“Concern about what time and money is spent on compliance”

“App State feels like a family atmosphere, felt when I was here as a student, being able to contact professors even at a later date.”

Concern about being able to volunteer due to the amount of work that staff has.”

“Salaries a concern, what is the future of Career Banding and NC being able to stay competitive in the work environment, focus on salaries needs to be a priority.”
“App State has one of the best IT departments, what thoughts of future for IT?” (IT is critical and important to have the appropriate infra-structure with the tools for success - is a shared decision across campus)

“Comfort level with the Strategic Plan, it seems so buried with work that it is not a priority.”

“Work-life fit for ASU, more community interaction with Faculty/Staff/Students – help train staff more.” Bring Faculty/Staff and Students together as a group”

“Have snow dates for Staff/Faculty offering a program during winter weather for children”

Chancellor Everts thanked the Senators and asked that they email her at evertssn@appstate.edu with any and all concerns.

Chair Update:

• Still need a Chair-Elect!

• Need presence at the Convocation ceremony on September 4th at 9:30 a.m. Senators are encouraged to come and walk as a group.

• Safety Week is the week of Labor Day. This will be the 25th year for the Walk for Awareness.

• Volunteer for House Calls program on September 3rd, where staff would go to the residence halls and off campus housing to greet the students and ask what concerns that they might have and hand out information.

HR Update:

Mark Bachmeier, Director of HR stated that this was just his second day but he wants to have as his first goal to understand what the people/community needs from HR. He expects HR to provide leadership. There is an investment in Human Capital and HR needs to provide leadership. He will work to align and link HR Strategic Plan with App State’s Strategic Plan. He looks forward to attending the Staff Senate meetings and being involved with staff.

Committee Reports:

• Staff Awards: Kevin Snook reported the winners of the Staff Awards for 2014:

   EPA - Maranda Maxey Dir. Of Disability Services)
SPA – Ruth Cook (College of Arts & Sciences); Tina Parlier (College of Health Sciences); Andrea Mitchell (Conferences and Camp Services)

- **Freshman Move-In:** Barbara Scarborough reported that there were still 5:15 and 6:30 spots available for volunteers. The t-shirts have been received and will be distributed.

- **AppKIDS:** Cindy Trivette reported that the school supplies collection is underway for K-12. Posters have been distributed of advertising. The Senators are encouraged to post the posters throughout their buildings. Chancellor Everts will be coming to the AppKIDS shopping day breakfast on November 21st; all fundraising envelopes will be distributed by the end of September...and the good news...the Committee has grown and there are 10-15 members presently.

**Other Announcements:**

- **Legends BIG SALE:** Will take place on Saturday, August 16th from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., if you would like to volunteer contact Kate Johnson at the ACT Office johnsonka1@appstate.edu

- **Faculty/Staff blood drive** will be held on September 5th through Health Promotions.

- **Volunteer at the ASU Homecoming Blood Drive** handing out water and information as a community service project on September 24th at the Holmes Convocation Center.

- **Tailgate with Staff Senate** at the September 6th football game, Staff Senate has a new tent...if you want to help man the tent, email Kevin Snook at snookkd@appstate.edu

Discount game tickets are available (unlimited) for $15.

**New Business:** There is a movement in the General Assembly to change the adverse weather policy where the Universities and State offices would not close in severe weather. There will be more information forthcoming.

**Kudos:** None this month

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- September 9th meeting will be in Linville Falls room in the PSU – guest speaker, Tom Van Gilder, TSS Director will review Winter Break Telecommuting.
• October 21st meeting will be in Linville Falls room in the PSU with guest speaker Greg Lovins, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs.