Staff Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 14, 2010
1:00-3:00 pm
Skutt Student Center 104

Members Present: Eddy Butkus, Lee Ann Crist, Karen Farias, Celeste Hubbard, Beth Krause, Tadd Martin, Luann Miller, Toni Parsley, Taunya Plater, Jan Schnack, Tami Thibodeau, Joann Wilde, Colleen Warin

Members Absent: Cathy Anderson, Jimmy Carter, Jennifer Larsen, Ann Luteran, Annette Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Tami Thibodeau offered reflection.

1. Approval of minutes:
   The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed. A motion was made for approval with minor changes to the wording of a few items. The motion was seconded, all were in favor.

Sue Chamberlin from the Health Sciences Library was introduced as a new member of SAC. Welcome Sue!

2. New Business:
   Tadd reviewed the CU Portal and demonstrated how it can be used to connect with the many programs commonly used at Creighton. Not all programs (such as Banner) are available yet on the Portal, but hopefully will be coming soon. Currently the portal is somewhat elementary – but it will be developed into a more powerful and useful tool.

3. Reports:
   - Treasurer:
     - LuAnn presented the treasurers report for the committee's review.
   - Staff Relations:
     - The committee discussed the December Forum and felt it had been successful. The constituents who braved the weather seemed to appreciate the event. It was suggested that possibly we hold the fall forum in October next year as the weather in December can be challenging. SAC will be having a Town Hall meeting in March – Staff Relations will be meeting Jan. 22 to discuss this further.
     - Many of the gifts for the Holiday Staff Luncheon seemed to be the ones from SAC. The committee decided we would like to do this again next year.
   - Nominations:
     - 4 nominations for Rookie of the Year have been received. Since this seems low, the committee was asked to try to encourage more nominations
   - Issues:
     - An issue brought up at the December Forum is that some staff would like Jay-Net back. The committee discussed that from information received at recent administrative meetings as it appears the intent is to bring this communication tool back, so this request may be resolved soon.
     - Another issue brought up is the interest in Creighton offering paid time off (PTO) time. This subject has been previously considered by HR and determined to not be feasible here at Creighton.
     - A request for more flex time was also made. The committee noted that a new flex time policy has recently been introduced; but that this and the concerns outlined above will all be taken to the President as issues being brought to SAC by staff members.

- Staff Service:
    - Celeste reported the UNO SAC has received approval of their board to participate in the Back-to-School Backpack challenge between our two institutions. The Staff Service will be working more on this project which will run between April 1 thru May 15.
    - Celeste reported that the Martin Luther King committee is requesting volunteers to help with the Wednesday January 20th Unity Luncheon. Anyone who could help with this was asked to let Celeste know.
- Standing Rules:
    - Karen presented a proposal for a new paragraph to add to the standing rules regarding special appointments to the committee. Recommendations on changes to the wording of the proposal were offered. After further discussion a new version of the paragraph was crafted. The final version will be brought to the next meeting for approval.

4. Guest speakers:
    - Tom Miller: TeamMates
        - Mr. Miller came to the meeting to provide information on this program and encourage participation and support among CU staff for it.
        - TeamMates is a school-based program similar to Big Brothers/Big Sisters designed to mentor young people.
        - Mr. Miller is hoping staff at CU will be interested in becoming mentors through the program. He provided the committee with applications and other materials to be shared with those who would like to know more and would like to become mentors.
    - Tamara Smith: Martin Luther King Committee
        - Tamara Smith is the Chairperson of the Martin Luther King committee and came to tell SAC about the various events occurring on campus the week of January 18-22 to celebrate the life of Dr. King. She asks that we spread the word on these activities to our constituents and encourage their participation.
    - Dawn Obermiller: Wellness
        - Dawn shared information on the upcoming Spring Wellness events and weight loss opportunities. The "Get Ready – Get Healthy" wellness program will start the first of February. This is in addition to several other programs running such as the "Lose it to Win it" challenge and the "PEAK" program. The costs are nominal, if anything at all, for any of these programs. Employees are encouraged to find a wellness activity that suits their need and lifestyle and participate in it. Something suitable for everyone is likely offered here at CU!

5. New Business:
    - LeeAnn Crist indicated that Purchasing will be hosting an Expo in March. SAC will be offered a table at the Expo for free. The Purchasing Department will have a game that will be designed to bring guests of the Expo to each of the display tables. The Staff Service Committee will have information on the CU/UNO Back-to-School Backpack challenge available for the SAC table at the Expo.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Hubbard
SAC Secretary