

**MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY
STAFF CONGRESS MINUTES
June 2, 2014**

MEMBERS:

Kenna Allen	Shannon Harr	Margaret LaFontaine	Brooke Mills	Clarissa Purnell
Sheila Barber	Paul Hitchcock*	Amanda Lewis*	Amy Moore	Gabria Sexton
Benji Bryant*	Joe Hunsucker	Patty Little	Kerry Murphy	Ernie Tackett*
Rhonda Crisp	Michelle Hutchinson*	Paige McDaniel	Scott Niles*	Barbara Willoughby
Jason Dailey	Travis Jolley	Rebecca McGinnis	Lora Pace	Donnie Willoughby
Craig Dennis	Yvette Kell*	Tina McWain*	Ray Perry	

*Denotes member was absent.

Guests:	Todd Thacker, Staff Regent; Beth Patrick, Chief Financial Officer/VP; New Members-Mica Collins, Louise Cooper, Jerel Benton, Corey Wheeler, Jill McBride, & Richard Fletcher
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Chair Harr called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Motion:	To approve the minutes from the May 5, 2014 meeting	
	Proposed: Rep. Sexton	Seconded: Rep. Murphy
Called for Vote:	Motion passed.	

Chair's Report	<p>Chair Harr reported that the executive committee submitted a list of questions about the compensation plan/VBP to Phil Gniot. He was going to address these questions today, but his wife is having surgery and he couldn't be at the meeting. He will meet with the executive committee possibly next week to address our concerns about reclassification and exempt salaries. Please email other questions to ask Mr. Gniot to a member of the executive committee. Secretary Crisp read the questions that were submitted to Mr. Gniot to the congress. Below are the questions:</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What percent of staff received no compensation increase? What percent of staff receiving a compensation increase received less than 2% of their salary? 2. How did entry-level classifications get reduced? 3. Are strategic initiatives the determining factor in how the classification scale was developed? 4. If there is a need to activate the reduction in force, what is the plan? 5. Is there a plan in place, like ECU had, for the open positions to be filled that are created from the incentive program? 6. When will the new compensation scale be posted on the web? 7. How was the compensation scale formulated? What was the justification for grouping of the job titles in each grade? 8. I still have not been told about the compensation plan – how can I find out where I stand?
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	<p>9. When I was initially hired, my job required a master’s degree at a level 4. I have worked here more than 15 years and thought I had the opportunity for a fair and equitable salary increase to reach the high point for a level 4. Under the new compensation plan, I am very discouraged and disheartened that I am now placed in a lower salary bracket and feel that my education (all of which is from MSU) and years of experience are not valued. Why are current employees who were hired under the old classification system levels not “grandfathered” in?</p> <p>10. If the necessary number of faculty and staff do not take the buyout, have supervisors been asked to identify staff whose employment may be terminated? How much notice will be given to these employees?</p>
Vice-Chair’s Report	Vice-Chair Dennis reported that the website has been updated. He met with Information Technology two weeks ago and staff concerns online submissions and officer election statements were added to the Portal.
Secretary's Report	<p>Secretary Crisp reported the supply balance is \$1,895.30. \$29.63 was spent for May refreshments and \$20.00 for new member name plates. We will pay for the luncheon this coming month.</p> <p>Chair Harr is planning to use some of the remaining funds as a stipend for Rep. Purnell who has been doing our newsletter all year.</p>

Committee Reports

Benefits & Compensation	No report.
Credentials & Elections	Committee Chair Pace reported that we will have officer elections today.
Staff Issues	<p>Committee Chair Allen reported that staff issues received this month were included in the questions submitted to Mr. Gniot. Staff issues can now be submitted via the Staff Congress portal website.</p> <p>The Executive Committee will be meeting with Mr. Gniot soon to get our questions answered. If anyone wants their questions to be anonymous, submit them through the portal instead of emailing them to a member of the committee.</p>
Sustainability Committee	No report.

Regent's Report: Staff Regent Thacker reported that the BOR will meet this Thursday. He received the agenda this morning which includes information about the budget and the roster for the upcoming fiscal year. He thinks the questions Staff Congress is asking of Mr. Gniot are valid and should be asked. Members are also welcome to share concerns with him.

Human Resources Report: No report.

Cabinet Report: VP Patrick reported that the BOR will meet on Thursday. The administration is watching the voluntary buyout and looking at how to fill vacant positions. As of Friday at noon, 8 faculty and 32 staff had completed the entire process for the buyout. There were 30 vacant positions before the buyout. They could be getting close to the numbers needed depending on how many vacancies are not committed to being refilled. They have the potential to make the goal. Employees have until June 9 to apply for the buyout. They will hear a decision within one week of their application and will have seven days after the decision to change their mind. HR is trying to approve new applications for the buyout each Friday. The option of deferring funds into a 457 account has been approved. Contact Gaylena Cline in payroll for details.

Phase A design work is being done on a number of projects that are not funded yet, just to get an idea of the scope of the project and the amount of funds needed. Below is an update on the progress of current and upcoming projects:

- Phase A design work is being done on the new Welcome and Alumni Center at the old Brass Eagle Apartment location. Work is already being done to tear down the inside of the structure. We will start seeing the outside come down this week. This space will be used for parking until we get the money to build the new building. This building will be built with private funds that haven't been raised yet. They already have a one million dollar commitment, but they need \$3-\$3.5 million, so there is a way to go with the fund raising.
- Phase A design work is being done on Phase II of the KCTM building. Private dollars will be raised to add a sound stage. This will be a \$1.5-\$2 million dollar project.
- Phase A design work is being done on changing the boulevard back to a walkway. Funding has not been identified yet.
- Work is being done to convert the old pool in the AAC to a volleyball facility. It is projected to be done fall 2015. A lot of other work is being done on the AAC at the same time, such as infrastructure and roofing work.
- A feasibility study is being done on Jayne Stadium just to plan forward.
- Phase A design work is being done on a new parking structure at the Waterfield Hall location, which will come down the middle-end of July. On top of the parking structure will be a food service building. This project will be done with cash. Aramark will donate half of the funding needed, or \$6 million. The remainder of the funding will come from parking revenue and an endowment that will be liquidated. The state did not authorize us to sell bonds for this project, so half of the money needed must be private dollars. When this building is done, there will be no debt associated with it.
- Garrett House is coming down in the next couple of weeks because it is unstable. The property will be used for green space at this time.
- Work will be done to redo the main switch gear where the power comes in to the university. This gear will be moved from the building beside Howell-McDowell and put in its own separate space. This will separate it from the steam controls so we won't have continuing problems like we had last year with power outages.
- EOP is the architect chosen to do the status plan for ADUC. A group is being gathered to discuss planning and expansion for this building which includes a new dining hall and a one-stop shop for students. Construction won't start until school lets out next spring. The state will pay for this work.
- There will be temporary parking on the lawn of the Recreation and Wellness Center during construction. After construction is done in that area, the area will go back to green space.
- Rowan Fiscal Court voted to give the old Allie Young Law Office building back to MSU. The Historical Society never received the money to renovate it as was planned. This building will most likely be torn down.

Everything we're working on is being paid for with state dollars or money coming in from auxiliaries, such as housing and parking. We are not using tuition or ENG dollars.

Old Business: None

New Business: Officer Elections for the 2014-2015 year were held. Committee Chair Pace reported that anyone interested in running for an officer position submitted a statement of interest that was posted to the Staff Congress portal website.

Motion:	To approve Craig Dennis as Chair of Staff Congress for 2014-2015 by acclamation since no one else ran for this position	
	Proposed: Credentials & Elections Committee	Seconded: None Needed
Called for Vote:	Motion passed.	

Motion:	To approve Scott Niles as Vice-Chair of Staff Congress for 2014-2015 by acclamation since no one else ran for this position	
	Proposed: Credentials & Elections Committee	Seconded: None Needed
Called for Vote:	Motion passed.	

Two members ran for Secretary/Treasurer: Clarissa Purnell & Barbara Willoughby. Both candidates left the room and members voted by paper ballot. The new secretary will be Clarissa Purnell.

No one ran for the Communications Officer position so the committee will defer until later for that position to be filled.

Announcements:

- Summer I – June 2-27, Summer II – June 30 – July 25, Summer – June 2-July 25
- SOAR – June 4, 6, 17 & 19 – over 300 participants each day
- GSP Program – June 15-July 19
- Independence Day – July 4 – MSU closed
- Next Staff Congress Meeting – July 7, 2014, 1 pm, Riggle Room
- Support Services will hold a special public sale – June 19 – 10am-3pm – Warehouse across from Wal-Mart. The sale will include furniture from Housing and will be priced to sell.
- Fiscal Year ends June 30. Don't forget to submit final year-end documents for payment.
- Support Services will have a new name on July 1. It will be called the Office of Procurement.
- There are about 60 groups on campus this summer. If anyone needs a schedule that includes the name of the group, dates on campus, and director's name, contact Rebecca McGinnis.
- Thank you to members who are rotating off Congress.

Motion:	To adjourn	
	Proposed: Rep. LaFontaine	Seconded: Rep. Jason Dailey
Called for Vote:	Passed	

Minutes submitted by: Rhonda Crisp, Secretary