

**University of Houston
Staff Council General Meeting
April 5, 2007**

Members Present: Carol Barr, Kelly Berry, Tina Blakes, Enrique Cardenas, M. Angela Clifton, Sandy Coltharp, Leslie Coward, Mary Douglas, Debra Frazier, Katherine Frazier, Ronald Gonyea, Jason Gregory, Charles Henry, Keith Kowalka, Lateki Lewis, John Matthews, James McDow, Ann McFarland, Jerry Muye, Natalio Oliva, David Page, Joe Papick, Lupe Pesina, Geoffrey Pierce, Leslie Pruski, Paul Roch, Cynthia Romero, Maria Saldana, Mary Schulz, Rebecca Szwarc, Patricia Taylor, Jean Valyan, and Susan Williams

Members Absent: Wendy Gary, Sharon Gates, Marilyn House-Broomfield, Sherry Howard, and Mary Reed

Guest List is in Staff Council Office.

The meeting was called to order by President, Carol Barr at 1:35 p.m.

Announcements/ President's Report

Carol Barr

CFI Co-chair Resignation: Carol announced that Ty Houston, VP for Partnerships and Sponsorships (Houston Alumni Organization) resigned as CFI Co-chair due to Steve Hall's resignation as President and CEO of the Houston Alumni Organization. Carol said she has appointed Joe Papick to assist Rebecca Szwarc as co-chair.

Treasurer Resignation: Carol reported Staria Anderson's resignation from Staff Council and her position as treasurer. Jason Gregory was asked and agreed to serve as interim treasurer.

Staff Council Spring Forum Rescheduled: The Staff Council Spring Forum has been rescheduled for Friday, May 18, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. The event will be held in the KIVA, Farish Hall. More information on this event is forthcoming.

Minutes: The March 2007 minutes were not approved.

Guest:

Dave Irvin, VC/VP Plant Operations

UH Master Plan: Mr. Irvin shared information with the Council about the UH Master Plan, which he said is not set in stone. Some of the goals for the plan are to:

- ❖ Enhance/expand facilities with increase of student population from 41,000 to 50,000
- ❖ Preserve and enhance the existing open green space
- ❖ Develop new campus places
- ❖ Close Cullen Blvd.
- ❖ Extend the Brays Bayou Park System into the campus
- ❖ Integrate Metro Light rail
- ❖ Continue lighting/security program
- ❖ Develop a loop road connecting Calhoun and Elgin Street
- ❖ Add more parking garages
- ❖ Increase on-campus residential population
- ❖ and more.

For more detailed information about the proposed goals and/or to ask questions or make comments go to: http://www.uh.edu/plantops/fpc_masterplan.html.

Guest: **Dr. John Rudley, VC/VP for Administration and Finance**

Merit: Dr. Rudley shared his viewpoints on a staff merit process. He stated that he embraces the concept of merit; he will work to ensure increases are 2% or more and he is working for a 4% increase. Dr. Rudley said that staff members should be challenged by a working institution that is changing. He also encouraged Staff Council to help prepare other staff members for the changes. As part of the change of culture, training will be altered and offered. Joan Sigler stated that as it relates to the PCD, HR will look more at the best practices and offer more training.

Officer Reports were eliminated due to time constraints and a need to address the proposed by-law changes related to the President-Elect.

Committee Chair Reports were also eliminated due to time constraints and a need to address the proposed by-law changes related to the President-Elect.

President's Report: **Carol Barr**

Resignations: Carol stated that if any other Staff Council member should resign this year, there would not be a replacement for that person because the count for representatives last year was over the number that was needed; therefore, for the upcoming year, fewer positions are needed to be filled.

President-Elect By-Law Changes: Paul Roch, Lateki Lewis, Rebecca Szwarc, Joe Papick, Leslie Pruski and Ann McFarland served on the sub-committee for the proposed President-Elect by-law changes. Ann McFarland and Joe Papick were asked to share information about the proposed President-Elect by-law changes.

Several concerns and questions were raised by members:

1. Is it appropriate to extend the term for a President Elect without approval/vote from constituents?
2. Does eliminating the Vice President position impact individuals who might want to serve on the Executive Board but who do not want to be President?
3. Does the proposed By-Law amendment set artificial term limits?
4. How will the proposed change benefit the Council? Will it benefit the Council?

Because it was after 3:00p.m. and a number of members had to leave, Carol requested that a proposal be made to Table the discussion. Sandy Colthrap made the motion.

Carol indicated that this was the second month the proposal had been presented and made available for discussion. She encouraged members to prepare for next month's discussion by reading the by-laws, and the amendment being recommended. Members interested were encouraged to attend the next Staff Affairs/ad hoc By-Laws committee meeting.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Submitted by: Joe Papick, Secretary