

Staff Council Executive Committee Meeting
March 17, 2004, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
603 JB

Present: Chris Annicella, Ella Born, Vicki Brown, Charlie Eastham, Hazel Kerr, Cheryl Reardon, Michelle Wichman

1. **Called to order** at 2:35 p.m.
2. **Approval of previous minutes:** Minutes from 2/18/04 Executive Committee meeting and 2/23/04 Executive Committee meeting with President Skorton approved as presented.
3. **Issues for Discussion:**
 - a. Resignation of Mary Sturm: Charlie said nominations would be taken from the floor at the April Staff Council meeting, for the vacancy due to Mary's resignation, with the term ending 4/05. Vicki Brown mentioned Christine Remmert has taken a new administrative position. The procedure was discussed for filling the vacancy in the MSE/C category due to Christine's new position.
 - b. Revised Staff Appreciation Day format: Charlie said Nancy Noyer was comfortable with the results, after soliciting for volunteers to help distribute fruit, at the Staff Council meeting on March 10th.
 - c. Request for Coca Cola funds: For timeliness, the Executive Committee (EC) agreed by email to approve a request for \$100 from Coca Cola funds to be used for the Celebration of Excellence and Achievement Among Women 2004 event to be held on March 30th. Charlie sent an email to Diane Anderson advising her, the Executive Committee approved using these funds for Reward & Recognition.
 - d. Longevity award eligibility: Colleen Martin, Staff Council's Office Manager (SCOM), had received a request for information from a staff member wondering if he would be eligible for the award under his specific circumstances. The officers agreed this staff member was certainly deserving of the recognition. It was questioned if this decision might set a precedent. The EC discussed the current criteria for receiving the award. It was also asked whether Colleen receives very many requests such as this. The EC agreed no changes needed to be made at this point.
 - e. SCOM hours: Cheryl mentioned Colleen has requested a Leave of Absence, of sorts, for a six-week period between the July and September Staff Council meetings. The EC did not see this as a problem, but did question if this would have an effect on her benefits. Cheryl said she would discuss this with Colleen. The funds that would have been used for Colleen's salary will go back into the Staff Council budget.
 - f. Review use of electronic elections/nominations: Charlie pointed out that Mark Long, Chair of the Elections Committee, has certified the election results are accurate. Since members of the EC had recently received invitations to the Staff Council reception with President Skorton, it was questioned whether the newly elected Councilors were included on the invitation list. Ella

said she would check with Colleen to see if this had been done yet. There were a few questions during the election from staff that felt they were not placed in the right category for voting. After some investigation, HR was fairly adamant the staff were assigned properly. Charlie made a couple of suggestions: 1) Accept the current results and 2) According to the Staff Council Bylaws Article III. Section 2. "The chair of the Council Elections Committee consults with University Human Resources to determine the current number of employees as of November 1 in each of the categories represented." After obtaining this information on or shortly after 11/1/04, Charlie suggests any changes necessary should be made prior to electronic voting. The EC had some discussion as to different ways to sort for categories and ways in which staff could appeal their categorization. Charlie mentioned to Cheryl that she might want to check with Mark Long about how to proceed with next year's elections. Charlie also pointed out to the EC that three nominees in the Academic/Administrative category tied for the number of votes received. According to the Bylaws, if any of these staff need to be considered to fill a mid-term vacancy, the nominee from these three would be chosen by lot.

- g. UIRA recommendations concerning Emeritus status: Charlie said he has not had a chance to set up the ad hoc committee agreed to by the Council at its last meeting. He intends to do so shortly.
 - h. Peer Support Committee: Ella mentioned a current Councilor has indicated to her, interest in joining this committee and intends to submit a letter of application.
 - i. Guests/agenda items for future SC meetings: Charlie and Cheryl compared notes and discussed a list of items including: nomination and election of EC members, diversity constituency groups, support for P&S staff whose positions are eliminated, and requesting additional Coca Cola contract funds.
 - j. Future EC meeting agenda items: One item would be the proposed tuition assistance benefit. Michelle said she and Maureen McCormick met with Donna Muller to discuss the UIHC tuition assistance program.
 - k. GEF task force: Charlie said they are still plugging away and meeting weekly.
4. **Items for meeting with President Skorton on Tuesday, March 30th at 3:00**: Some items suggested include updates on Athletic Department issues, the legislative session, the search for Vice President of Research, and the UIHC Renal Transplant dismissals. Some concern was expressed that the staff who were let go were not represented by a bargaining unit.
5. **Pending Items**: The list of Action Items was reviewed and one item was added.
6. **Other stuff/matters from SC meeting**:
- Ella said the SC research reps have met a few times recently and she agreed to bring some items to the EC for discussion. One concern was expressed that a research issue had been brought to the SC Human Resources committee, but was dismissed with little input or action by the committee. Another item Ella mentioned was the protocol for introducing

research issues, concerns, or suggestions. Should the issue be brought to the EC, or the HR committee, or directly to Council and in any particular order?

Michelle mentioned a discrepancy with regard to the length of time P&S staff could remain at term status, depending on the source of funding for salaries. That is, a staff member supported 100% by soft money could remain at term status for up to six years. Is this fair for P&S researchers? The EC discussed this briefly.

Chris mentioned receiving an email about an upcoming Diversity Forum. She said she would forward the email to other EC members along with a schedule of events.

7. Adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Future Executive Committee Meetings:	Future Meetings with President Skorton:
	Tuesday, 3/30/04, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
	Thursday, 4/29/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 5/28/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 6/25/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Thursday, 7/29/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 8/27/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 9/24/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 10/29/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 11/19/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Friday, 12/17/04, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ella Born, Staff Council Secretary