

OCTSA Steering Committee Meeting November 3, 2014

Members present: Dee Cook, Lacey Nisbett, Allyson Holliday, Lynette Scales, and Leslie Davis

Members absent: Vivian Liveoak, Cassie Schultz, Carolyn Fulmer, Todd Hester

Guests present: Alesia Darling, Marina Klaric (OCTSA Staff Life Committee), Kristina Hopton-Jones (Bama Dining), and Ronnie Robertson (Transportation Services)

Dee Cook welcomed everyone to the Steering Committee meeting, and introduced two guests: Kristina Hopton-Jones, Director of University Dining Service and Ronnie Robertson, Director of Transportation Services

Presentations to Parking Services - Dee began by presenting the OCTSA's proposals for more equitable parking fees for faculty/staff based upon salaries.

Ronnie Robertson acknowledged that a more equitable plan would benefit the lower-paid staff on campus, but he stated that the implantation for a system based on salaries is a "logistical nightmare." He suggested that we contact Rutgers and/or another university (with Banner) using a similar salary-based parking system to get advice. He also suggested that we speak to Dr. Lynda Gilbert, Vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer to see if the following logistical problems could be resolved:

- 1) Human Resources/Payroll would need to provide salary information to Parking Services, and this would involve OIT to see if it's possible to pull this type of data from Banner to MyBama.
- 2) Will this potentially upset faculty/staff that make \$60,000 and above? And if so, how will UA deal with the upset?
- 3) How will this affect Reserved Lot parking?

Ronnie also reminded the committee that Parking Services offers a downtown bus service for employees who do not wish to purchase a parking tag. Several members of the committee stated that the downtown bus system was not a logical solution to the parking problems on campus.

Dee offered to reach out to Dr. Gilbert and **Alesia** agreed to contact Rutgers for advice/information.

Presentation to Bama Dining – Dee presented the assembly's idea for a \$5 meal plan for faculty/staff that could be used any day of the week and payroll deducted.

Kristina Hopton-Jones provided information to the committee on their current faculty/staff meal plans which (at the lowest) offer 10 meals at \$7.00 per meal for \$70.00. Although Kristina did not think Bama Dining would be able to go lower than that cost per meal for F/S plan, she agreed to check with HR to see if it was possible to set up payroll deduction for the current plans. One logistical problem that would need to be faced is "what happens if an employee leaves the

university before the deductions have completed on his/her paycheck?" This is a question that will need to be answered by HR.

The guests from Bama Dining and Parking Services were thanked for their time and then dismissed.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved pending the following: spelling changes for the following names: "Todd Hester" and "Kristina Hopton-Jones." Spelling change for "bringing snacks."

Online Community for OCTSA and Non-exempt staff – Leslie informed the committee that she received an email from a non-exempt staff member asking about the possibility for an online blog or message board for FAQ and discussions related to responsibilities with staff positions on campus. The committee discussed the idea of implementing an online community for non-exempt staff via listserv, wiki, blog, Blackboard. **Allyson** and **Lacee** agreed that a Blackboard shell would be the easiest to create and maintain.

Newsletter – **Allyson** informed the committee that the newsletter will be sent out before the next meeting.

Upcoming Assembly Meeting – Emily Marbutt and Hiron Stiell are the guest speakers for the general assembly meeting on November 13.

Committee Reports – There was not enough time for committee reports.

Dee adjourned the meeting.