

OCTSA Steering Committee Meeting December 1, 2014

Members present: Dee Cook, Lacey Nisbett, Allyson Holliday, Todd Hester, and Osielia Lewis

Members absent: Lynette Scales, Leslie Davis, Vivian Liveoak, Cassie Schults, and Carolyn Fulmer.

Guests present: Alesia Darling (OCTSA Staff Life Committee)

Dee Cook welcomed everyone to the Steering Committee meeting.

Minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Professional Staff Assembly Update – **Dee** informed the committee that the PSA is also experiencing attendance issues from members. The PSA was unable to approve their minutes at their last assembly meeting, because they did not have a quorum. **Alesia** suggested that we find more areas to place our flyers. Committee members discussed placing flyers in areas that could be considered “common space” for staff.

The PSA had Ronnie Robertson present on Parking Services, similar to the presentation he provided the committee last month. PSA also invited CCS to speak out degree and non-degree seeking program.

Dee reminded the committee of the **UA staff employee mentoring/blog** idea which was suggested at the last Steering Committee meeting. **Leslie** and guest were unable to attend the meeting to present their thoughts on the idea. There was a brief discussion, and **Lacey** volunteered to help with the creation and implementation of this project, should the assembly choose to pursue it.

Alabama REACH – It was announced that the assembly was able to raise \$703 for gift cards for the Alabama REACH program. 52 REACH students will be provided gift cards at a banquet on the night of December 12, 2014. Supplies for the REACH pantry will be taken up at our next assembly meeting.

Coat Drive is still accepting items. Members can bring clothing items to the next assembly meeting.

New Business – **Dee** informed the committee of three new ideas suggested by new member Sharon Skipper:

- 1) Employees with 20+ years of service should be placed in a drawing to receive a free parking pass for one year.
- 2) Caps on Annual Leave accrual should be eliminated for staff employees.
- 3) The Drop Program has been “dropped.” Is there something else that can be done?

The committee discussed looking at UA’s Eligibility Chart to compare benefits between faculty, professional staff, and non-exempt staff. There was also a discussion about adding more child care discounts on the Bama Perks list. These ideas may be things that the Staff Life Committee can take on.

Dee asked the committee their thoughts about purchasing a nice OCTSA **table banner** to use during meetings and special events. Dee agreed to contact 4Print or University Printing for a quote.

Old Business – Todd will be composing a resolution in support for the Tide for Tusks program for the Steering Committee to approve. It will be announced at the next assembly meeting.

Alesia reported on the **Parking Fee Project**. She contacted Patty Highland, Manager of Parking at Rutgers to ask questions about their parking fee system. The Staff Life and Steering Committee will come up with additional questions for Alesia to ask Patty Highland. **Dee** hopes that we will be ready to present our plan to Dr. Linda Gilbert in January.

Upcoming Assembly Meeting – Teresa Faulkner will be the guest speaker for the general assembly meeting on December 11.

Committee Reports – Professional Development was not present to provide a report. Service & Outreach are currently working on Alabama REACH and the Coat Drive. Staff Life is working on the projects mentioned in the New Business and the Parking Fee Project. Communication & Public Relations is still working on keeping the website update.

Dee adjourned the meeting.