

**Present:**

Premalatha Balachandran, Anne Scott Barrett, Ev Barrett, Blake Bostick, Mohamed Ali Ibrahim, LeTosha James, Anne Klingen, JeLisa McGee, Aretha Nabors, Sheila Padgett, Johnny Price, Steven Ridout, Jason Shirkey, Precious Thompson, Deetra Wiley

**Absent:**

Jessica Coker, Jeremy Cook, James Corner, Erica Covington, Kevin Cozart, Gazel Giles, Christy Isom, Natcha Knight-Evans, Robert Metzger, Ryan Miller, Danielle Noonan, Erin Ridout, Jacqueline Vinson

**I. Call to Order**

The March Staff Council meeting was called to order by Johnny Price at 10:35 AM, March 8, 2018.

**II. Attendance (sign in sheet)**

**III. Special Guest Speakers: Career Life Connector Program**

- Derek Cowherd, John Adrian, and Kelly Houston
- Donna Strum, Associate Provost, began this initiative to enhance faculty and staff recruitment and retention.
- Goals include:
  - Working to improve faculty and staff well-being and job satisfaction.
  - Helping to create an inclusive campus that supports diverse identities.
  - Ensuring that work-life integration, including family caregiving support, is equitable, transparent, and consistent across the academic community.
  - Expanding and enriching the support network for work-life balance and family caregiving in the academic community.
  - Contributing to the University Creed's core values of respect for the dignity of each person, fairness and civility, and personal and professional integrity.
- Faculty and staff members serve as either consultants or navigators.
  - Consultants will assist with searches and recruitment of faculty and staff. They will meet with potential candidates to serve as a resource to answer questions about the University and Oxford.
  - Navigators will assist current faculty and staff in navigating the University system and achieving work-life balance.
- The website is [careerlife.olemiss.edu](http://careerlife.olemiss.edu). The consultants and navigators can be reached by emailing [careerlife@olemiss.edu](mailto:careerlife@olemiss.edu) or Donna Strum at [dswest@olemiss.edu](mailto:dswest@olemiss.edu).

**IV. Approval of Minutes – February**

- The minutes are sent out via email, and any comments/questions/or changes should be emailed to Ev Barrett ([ebarrett@olemiss.edu](mailto:ebarrett@olemiss.edu)).
- Motion to approve by Precious Thompson.

- Seconded by Aretha Nabors.
- The February Minutes were approved.

#### **V. Approval of Treasurer's Report – February**

- The Treasurer's Report is sent out via email, and any comments/questions/or changes should be emailed to Je'Lisa McGee (hairston@olemiss.edu).
- Motion to approve by Prema Balachandran.
- Seconded by Precious Thompson.
- The treasurer will revise the commodities beginning balance.
- The February Treasurer's Report was approved as revised.

#### **VI. Staff Member of the Month for March**

- Blake Bostick volunteered to take over this position since Kelly Houston has rolled off of Staff Council.
- The Staff Member of the Month committee will meet and we will vote on the March nominees by email.
- On March 26, Blake announced that the March Staff Member of the Month is Ellen Shelton, Director of Pre-College Programs for the Division of Outreach.

#### **VII. Reports of Committees**

- Parking and Traffic – Steven Ridout reported that students are complaining about the green faculty/staff signs, so these may be changed to another color. Jessica Coker asked Steven to see if there is a way to make visitor parking at the JAC better.

#### **VIII. Unfinished Business**

- Staff Appreciation Week –
  - Johnny will scan and email the list of sponsors to everyone.
  - Jason has many activities planned. Some new activities include hands-on first aid, pickle ball, and bubble soccer.
  - RebelWell is coordinating 5 events during the week. The opening event will be the Wellness Fair on Monday 5/14 from 10 – 12.
  - The lunch will be at the new Union ballroom with the Rebel Market serving as a backup location.
- Red and Blue Graduation Celebration for UM Staff – Currently waiting for answers from various groups about the following:
  - Is another group using red & blue cords during graduation?
  - Can we retrieve information from the UM system to identify what UM employees are graduating or would that be a privacy issue?
  - Are there funds available for UM Staff Council to pay for the purchase of the red & blue cords and a reception for graduating UM staff?

The Center for Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement offered to assist us with the creation of a website/form similar to the ones used for the Lavender Graduation Ceremony
- Status of House Bill 1083 – Johnny has read a report that both the House and the Senate passed an amended version of the bill yesterday. If this is signed into law, it will be in place July 1, 2018.

## **IX. New Business**

- UPD chief interviews are taking place this week.
- The search for the Director of Facilities Management has begun.
- Budget – the UM leadership is hoping for a flat budget. Their main goal is to keep from having any reduction in faculty or staff positions.
- The University Lions Club will meet in Lamar 134 on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm. This organization promotes causes such as eyesight health, diabetes, and childhood cancer.
- The University Toastmasters club is dormant. There is another toastmasters group on campus (called “Talk it up, Oxford”) that meets in the Khayat Law School Room 1115 at 5:30pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. The club is open to any member of the community.
- Staff Council polos need to be ordered in April.

## **X. Concerns**

## **XI. Upcoming Events**

- Final exam breakfast is tentatively set for the Tuesday of exam week.

**Meeting adjourned 11:37 a.m.**

**Next Executive Council Meeting with the Chancellor:** March 28, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. in the Facilities Management Conference Room.

Draft minutes submitted by Ev Barrett on March 9, 2018.

Final minutes submitted by Ev Barrett on March 26, 2018