

The University of Texas – Pan American
 Staff Senate – Your Advocate
www.utpa.edu/orgs/staffsenate/
 March 27, 2009, 9:30 a.m.
 HSHW 2.230 (Executive Boardroom)
MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** Chair called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. (A quorum (12) is present.)

II. **Roll Call**

Name	P	A	Name	P	A	Name	P	A	Name	P	A
Angulo, Joe	X		Garcia, Teresa R.	X		Miranda, Jaime	X		Smith, Bryan		X
Betancourt, Gilda		X	Gernentz, LuAnn	X		Molina, Efrain	X		Tobin, Sally		X
Cano, Mary Lou	X		Gorena, Arlene	X		Puentes, Alisha	X		Vasquez, Hector		X
Delgado, Ismael	X		Hannah, Carolyn	X		Ramos, Arturo	X		Ybarra, Mary		X
Espinoza-Rodriguez, Patty	X		Jaramillo, Maria Teresa		X	Rios, Mary Lou		X			
Galan, Yvonne	X		Martinez, Yolanda	X		Sandoval, Michael		X			

III. **Guests:** None

IV. **Reading and Approval of minutes:** February 2009 minutes – Yolanda Martinez, Motion to Approved as amended Motion was 2nd by Arlene Gorena. Passed with no objections.

V. **Officer Report/Committee:**

- Chair Teresa Garcia – Announced her promotion to Director of the Writing Center, which will make her ineligible to be on the Staff Senate. She requested nomination for Chair of the Staff Senate to serve from March 2009 to July 2009 when the next Fiscal year 2009-2010 new officer are will be voted in to office.
 1. She nominated Arturo Ramos, no other nominations. Won by acclamation.
 2. Vice Chair – Nomination of Ismael Delgado, no other nominations. Won by acclamation.
 3. Goals Staff Senators on the “Wellness Task Force” – Yolanda Martinez. Arlene, Arturo, Yvonne and LuAnn attended upon request for more participants. Arlene recapped the meeting.
 - March 24th Tai Chi Classes,
 - Personal Training \$25. Jacque Adams is the only certified trainer. Miranda another worker is now working on her certification.
 - They voted on charging \$1 for the use of the racks, due the replacement cost. Otherwise the service will stop add each person bring in their own rack.
 - They already stop providing the goggles for swimming due to they could not be kept sanitary.
 - Staff Senate is to encouraging staff to the wellness care for health maintenance rather than not taking care of our health with the insurance cost increasing. The good analogy was made - would you rather change the oil in your car periodically or wait to change out the motor.
- Up-coming changes – Banner/Oracle upgrade then possibly to People –Soft this system is used through UT System instead of Oracle. Maintenance and Leasing issues.
- Email system is schedule for upgrade from the 2003 version to 2007 in this fiscal year.

VI. **UTPA & UT System Committee Reports:**

- SWIAC: Michael Mingus the Benefits Manager of HR ask for feed -back on the health insurance options, Tea – Letter will be going out to all staff in May to prepare for July enrollment. He will be invited back to report on all the final changes for 2009 – 2010 fiscal health coverage.
- UT EAC – Employment Advisory Committee: March 5 & 6, 2009 in Austin, Texas. Arturo Ramos & Efrain Molina attended. Discussed:
 - Professional Staff Development training & retention
 - diversity, resource sharing
 - System-wide position posting.

- Reviewed ombudsman wellness,
 - job opportunity sharing, etc.
 - speaker (Dan Stewart) Legislative Issue Review – Straus (San Antonio) \$1 Million UTAMCO – Investment UT & A+M Bonus
 - Handguns on campus
 - Emerging Tech Fund
 - THECB
 - Work-study
 - Insurance \$. 95 or \$1
 - Seamless transfer Community College to University
 - TRS down 25%
 - Cobra (HR) retro Active where they
 - 20 -25% Reduce number of meeting - thru video conference
 - Team Leadership
 - Mission Statement – ok
 - Stewardship – website
 - HR Director – Request Rules
 - Diversity- Leadership define
 - Promotion period
 - Police retention
 - Next meeting in July 30 & 31 in Austin – Election and Meeting information
- CFPC – Campus Facilities Planning Council: March 23, 2009
 - Update on current facilities projects- Brick replacement project- Jorge Garza 100% complete
 - Update on facilities planning-
 1. Fine Arts Special Events Center – James R. Langabeer-on hold \$49 Million.
 2. Starr Country Upper Level Facility – Marvin Boland – Proceeding – Construction documents/ Trailers – Jim/Paul/John to determine where to place.
 - Projects in process- (status report sheet) Marvin Boland – 104 projects
 1. Dec. 15 – University Center
 2. Administration, Troxel Hall? – maybe - future
 - Next meeting April 27, 2009

VII. Staff Senate Committee Reports:

- Elections & Nominations: no report
- Special Events: Mary Lou Cano-showed options’ of the awards and a sample of the invitation to the award recipients and the choices of the type of awards.
- Special Issues: Patty Rodriguez – reported that they will be meeting to review the Fall 2008 Applicants for the last time Staff Senate Scholarship Assistant program. The complying of the Staff Senate Code of Conduct, duties and responsibilities’ handouts for incoming senators.

VIII. Old Business:

- Goals presented to group for discussion

University Goal 1: Provide Students a quality educational experience.

Staff Senate Goal: Staff Senate will advocate for educational support for qualified staff to continue to pursue educational goals which will enhance the University’s human capital.

University Goal 2: Become an outstanding research institution, emphasizing collaborative partnerships and entrepreneurships.

98
99 **Staff Senate Goal:** Staff Senate will co-host or volunteer at research-based informational seminar
00 or workshops.

01
02 **University Goal 3: Enhance UTPA’s engagement with the community to meet challenges and**
03 **maximize opportunities.**

04
05 **Staff Senate Goal:** Staff Senate will co-host or volunteer at key student recruitment events in an
06 effort to increase senate visibility and help create a “college going culture.”

07
08 **Staff Senate Goal:** Staff Senate will develop and maintain a page on its website with areas of
09 senator knowledge and expertise that can be used to reach out to staff members throughout
10 campus.

11
12 **University Goal 4: Collaborate with P-12 schools to enlarge the pool of applicants who are**
13 **personally prepared and academically qualified for higher education.**

14
15 **Staff Senate Goal:** Staff Senate will attend local state or national association meetings or team up
16 with student councils at the high school to promote the teaching of national standards.

17
18 **University Goal 5: Infuse Inter-American and global perspectives throughout the University.**

19
20 **Staff Senate Goal:** Staff Senate will assist all units of the University to increase and improve Inter-
21 American and global perspectives by increase awareness to staff of various programs and activities
22 available through Study Abroad Programs and encourage the University Staff Community to
23 participate in the multicultural activities offered throughout the year.

24
25 **University Goal 6: Optimize institutional effectiveness and efficiency consistent with high quality**
26 **organizational standards.**

27
28 **Staff Senate Goal:** Staff Senate will provide workshop with a speaker related to being more
29 effective or efficient in the workplace.

30
31 Mary Lou Cano, made the motion to accept the staff senate goals as amended, second by Arlene,
32 passed with no objections.

33
34 Suggestion was made for the Vice-Chair to give a quarterly report (September, December, March
35 and June) at out monthly staff senate meetings to monitor us that we the staff senate I are
36 accomplishing these 6 goals.

37
38 **IX. New Business:**

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40 **X. Announcements:**

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42 **XI. Adjourn: *Time adjourned 10:55 a.m. Next meeting will be April 17, at 9:30 a.m. location: HSHW 2.230.**