

**Staff Senate Meeting
September 26, 2006
Lear Auditorium**

MINUTES

Meeting started at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes from May 23, 2006 Staff Senate meeting were read and approved as submitted.

Chairperson, Brian Raymond, thanked retired Council Members, Robin Harris, Marilyn Hotaling, Dane Johnson, and Linda Wareck, for their hard work and dedication to the Staff Senate over the last few years. He also welcomed the new Staff Council members Deborah Callahan, Marshall Jackson, Cliff Johnson, Phyllis Jones, Luba Kagan, Mary Power, Gabe Sauvie and returning members Joyce McKissen, Karen Miller, and Cathy Phillips.

Speaker, Dr. Robert Fletcher, Mechanical Engineering, LTU

Topic: LTU Recycles

Dr. Fletcher reviewed the Recycling Committee's vision and history. He suggested checking the Recycling Website for updates and events. Currently, LTU is recycling office paper, phonebooks, magazines, junk mail, and newspapers. The initial focus has been on paper products. The committee is aware of some problems with the pick-up of recycling and hope to remind each department of the drop-off points for materials in their buildings.

Recycling is especially important now as LTU focuses on sustainability. The three parts of sustainability that will help us as we move into the future are REDUCE, REUSE, and RECYCLE. The Taubman Student Services Center is LEED certified, so recycling is an expected part of the environmentally smart focus of this building and our campus as a whole.

Future goals for the Recycling effort include making campus wide recycling as easy as possible, expanding to the collection of other recyclables, and providing an example of recycling that students will bring to their future workplace. Staff members can help to support the recycling efforts, learn about the procedures/policies, talk about recycling with your colleagues, provide feedback and join the committee.

Discussion with audience brought up problems with recycling bins being used as trash bins and confusion about where the bins are kept. Committee members acknowledged that paper recycling needs to be improved before expanding the recycling effort and that students could play more of a role in their departments to help the program succeed. The website could also post locations of recycling bins and publicity about the program could be included in campus newspapers.

Paper materials with confidential information (student IDs, etc.) should be shredded before depositing in the recycling bins.

Committee Reports: Joyce McKissen handed out sign-up sheets for each Committee.

Staff Recognition Committee: Gabe Sauvie handed out forms for nominations. September awardee will be announced at the October meeting.

Social Outreach Committee: Beth Gierada reported that the Giving Tree event which collects gifts for the Southfield Goodfellows is the biggest effort for the committee. Last year other events included raising donations for a cancer foundation and children's hospital. This is a very rewarding committee that has nine members presently. They meet about once every five weeks.

Legislative Committee: Cathy Phillips described this committee as coordinating the Staff Council elections in March and April as well as handling by-laws revisions.

Communication and Programming Committee: This committee will work on presenting information on the Staff Senate via the LTU website and also will plan programming for upcoming meetings. They are looking for volunteers to help.

Facilities Committee: Brian Raymond said that this committee deals with trying to improve our work environment (make it safer, cleaner, etc.). Please contact this committee if you have any suggestions or complaints about the conditions where you work. One issue that was brought up last year was improving air quality. Now that Taubman Student Services is completed, this can be revisited. Audience discussion included poor water quality in the Engineering Building.

Staff Development: Phyllis Jones brainstormed with the staff about possible ideas for Staff Development programs. Good programming will increase productivity, morale and education. Program ideas included Human Resources, coordinating with License to Lead and/or the Professional Development Center (PDC), and increasing awareness of the LTU Strategic Plan.

Social Committee: Joyce McKissen explained that this committee plans events and social gatherings such as the St. Patrick's Day Lunch. Please contact her to help.

New Staff Members Introduction:

There are 9 new staff members since July, 2006. Those present were introduced and given a gift from the Staff Senate.

(Minutes taken by Deborah Callahan, then typed from notes by Cathy Phillips)