

Staff Council Meeting Minutes  
August 8, 2018

Meeting was commenced by Amy Griffin, council chair. Members in attendance were:

Julia Bliss – HPL  
Juli Brush – HPL (past chair)  
Jenna Clark - MDSG  
Amy Griffin – CA (chair)  
Kurt Florez – HPL (vice chair)  
Elissa Lee – CBL  
Michelle Prentice – IMET  
Lisa Ross – CA (ex. officio)  
Chris Wilson – IMET

Absent – Jennette Conners (MDSG), Stacey Hutchison (CBL), Lori Step (CA), April Ross (CA)

John Piasecki (AL)?? not sure if he was present or not.

Topics:

- Approval of June Meeting Minutes – There were no further questions, comments, or corrections for the June minutes. Juli made a motion to approve and seconded??

- Staff Appreciation Day

- Staff Council By-Laws – Want to make sure we do not use the term represent as in a Union. There was not a quorum present to vote on the proposed changes to the current by-laws, so Amy Griffin will send out email to have those not present voice their vote. Kurt Florez requested the email be sent to the full Staff Council so everyone can see any comments or concerns and not if the motion was approved or not approved.

- How to sustain Staff Council representation – should have 2 member from each lab to make sure there is always representation from each lab.

- CUSS – Chair and Vice Chair should have right of first refusal.

- Committee Updates:

- Staff Day Committee – Will be held at Centennial Park because it is the most centrally located. There will be a caterer to set-up, serve the meal and clean up. The Administration has been invited to attend. The Initial invitation will be from Dr. Goodwin. Kurt Florez will do a video with the staff FAQs. We need an internal agenda for how the day is to run. Travel may be an issue and we need to communicate to ADs and Directors on staff will travel to the event. We are asking Director to give remarks. Amy Griffin and Kurt Florez will be MCs for the day. There will be a Welcome Table with raffle tickets, sign-in, and tumblers.

- Communication Committee – How do we best communicate (advertise) Staff Council and what we do for the staff. Monica and Michelle presented Some ideas as to have a brown bag lunch, snacks, or pizza on a regular basis.

Awards Committee - Maybe some Staff Council member could get a seat 2 times a year at Lab meetings just discuss what Staff Council is doing? Amy –Table this idea for now and revisit later with additional ideas. For now focus on Staff gatherings.

Lisa stated that the Board of Regents Award nomination for the Fall are ramping up.

Think about Committee goals for next meeting.

- HR update – April – an email has gone out with open enrollment meeting dates. Open enrollment will be just like last year, On-line enrollment will not be ready until January 1, 2019. Next year it will all be on-line. Trainings on the new system TBA.

There will be a 2% COLA January 1, 2019. There could be an additional .5% COLA and one time \$500 bonus if the State meets the revenue goals for fiscal year 2018.

- Dr. Pete Goodwin – will use the Environmental Summit at the end of November as a platform to discuss the new UMCES Strategic Plan instead of having a welcome party.

- CUSS Update – July was the last meeting of the term. Items discussed:  
How to assist retirees with the move to the new prescription plan, Medicare part D instead of the previous plan that was supposed to be active until 2020. It will now start January 1, 2019. There will be a 1 year transition with out of pocket expenses up to \$1500. There may be further assistance past the 1<sup>st</sup> year.

The results are in from the Staff Encouragement Survey.

- Lab Updates :  
CBL – Has a new Business Manager – Teresa Holloway  
HPL – Has a new PI – Jacob Cram  
CA – Has mitigated the asbestos problem and has re-opened. Dottie Samoninsky is retiring in October. Ken Barton is retiring in April 2019. Trish Summers will be the lone survivor.  
IMET – Chris Wilson left August 3, 2018.

Juli Brush made a motion to close the meeting and Kurt Florez seconded that motion.