

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSEMBLY**

**ASSEMBLY MEETING
15 May 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00p.m. by Cali Davis, President.

Roll Call: The roll was called by Kristina Hopton-Jones, Secretary. 64 members were present at roll call.

Since the assembly did have a quorum, the minutes for January, February, and March were unanimously approved. Cresandra Smothers noted an error in April's minutes. Cali will correct and distribute the minutes for approval in the next meeting.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Pat Bauch addressed the assembly to request support from the PSA of the domestic partner benefits resolution passed by the Faculty Senate in April. Dr. Bauch provided research results that support the resolution.

Officer/ Committee Reports:

Treasurer: John Chambers

The PSA budget for 2007/2008 was \$5,000. The budget for the 2008/2009 year will be cut to \$2,500.

Past-President: Mark Foster

No report this month

Staff Life: Debbie Wyatt

No report this month

Service and Outreach: John Kasberg

The committee met on May 13. 11 committee members were present for a discussion with Dr. Gilbert. The committee is currently trying to identify projects for the coming year. The United Way "Day of Action" will be held on Saturday, June 21, meeting at River Road Park. A complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Professional Development: Reata Strickland

The committee will meet on June 5 in 236 Gordon Palmer Annex. The rest of the year's meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month.

Nominations and Elections: Janet Griffith

The committee met via e-meeting in May. The committee's first assignment will be filling the 19 vacancies on the assembly membership roster. The committee will meet again in June.

Communications: Wendy McMillian

The committee will meet after the May general assembly meeting to determine an acceptable day and time for the first meeting.

Assembly Operations: Richard Livingston

The committee met in May. Richard gave the new committee members an overview of the charge of the Assembly Operations committee. They also discussed the bylaw that enforces attendance. This rule has not been followed closely in the past, but it will be put in force this year.

President: Cali Davis

- Year end reports from all committees will be available online by June 1st
- Committee Assignments- you should have received these, if not, please contact Cali
- PSA Standing Committee representatives will be appointed
- Faculty Senate rep will be appointed
- Website (professionalstaff.ua.edu) is now new and improved thanks to Adam Miller. Adam has requested that agendas and minutes from committee meetings be submitted to him for posting on the web site. All committee chairs, please add Adam (amiller@ccs.ua.edu) to your distribution list so that he can be aware of upcoming events and important information. Please submit documents to Adam in PDF format if at all possible. If you take pictures in your meetings, please forward to Adam for addition to the website.

President-elect: Jill Beville

Jill is currently looking for a meeting room that will accommodate the PSA General meetings this Fall. The Bryant space will be used for a nursing class on Thursdays this year. Wendy suggested Jill contact Kurt Morton in Records for assistance.

New Business:

Vacancies are still available for the Professional Staff Assembly; please contact Janet Griffith for more information.

Due to the sense of urgency implied by Dr. Bauch regarding the need for a speedy decision by the PSA to support the domestic partner benefit resolution, approved by the Faculty Senate; a motion was put forth for the assembly to vote on taking a vote at this meeting. Rachel Shuttlesworth, seconded the motion.

The floor was open for discussion:

- An assembly member did not feel ready to vote because it is his first term in the assembly.
- The resolution was only approved by the Faculty Senate on April, 8. Why should we feel compelled to vote quickly, since the resolution just passed?
- Carlton McHargh, explained the timeline of the resolution which was discussed and put on the table for the PSA at the request of the EEOC over 2 months ago.
- A suggestion was submitted to the assembly to meet in June to vote rather than voting today.

Discussion was closed, and the assembly voted on taking a vote at this meeting regarding the domestic partner benefits resolution. 24 in favor of voting today, over 30 not in favor of voting today. We will not vote today.

A motion was put forth to vote on scheduling a PSA meeting in June to vote on the domestic partner benefits support question. The motion was second. 3 not in favor of

meeting in June, the remainder of the assembly in favor of meeting in June. We will meet in June to vote on whether the PSA will support the Faculty Senate resolution.

Announcements:

Steering Committee: 12 June, 3:00 p.m. Housing Conference Room

PSA General Meeting: June TBA

The new vending contractor, Pepsi, will have a kick-off celebration on the Ferguson Plaza on June 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Adjourned at 4:25 p.m.