

## Staff Senate Meeting

March 3, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Waters Hall Conference Room

Present: Kim Braden, Steve Clark, Mark Gale, Tina Hooks, Damon Lares, Chris Moss, Molly Pepper, Dana Waldrop, and Sharron Woods

Absent: Billy McClain, Felicia Mucci

Minutes from the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted and approved with no changes.

New Business:

1. The speaker for the April Staff Appreciation Luncheon has been selected. It will be Kyle Butt of Apologetics Press. He is on the Board of Directors for Mars Hill School in Florence, Alabama. The theme for the luncheon will be Workplace Superheroes. Food selections to accompany the theme would be hero sandwiches and/or soups. Steve Clark will contact Larry Fite of the campus cafeteria to discuss options. He will also order a superhero stress reliever as the give-away for all staff. The luncheon has been scheduled for April 25.
2. Steve Clark brought to the meeting a draft of a new Proposal for Merit Raise Program. The proposal is currently in the discussion stages with the committee meeting again next Thursday. Some concerns were voiced regarding the use of performance evaluations as part of this new proposal. The performance evaluations and how they are conducted vary widely across campus. Some thought it would be better to use a peer review model for merit raises or to model the process after the current faculty promotion process. The new model would not be implemented until 2018. Mark Gale recommended that the Staff Senate coordinate future meetings to coincide with meetings by this committee in order to provide a voice from other staff members outside of the selected committee.
3. The Athens State University Board of Trustees recently charged a new committee to draft a Statement of Inclusion and Civility that appears to be directed toward both employees and students. Steve Clark and Tina Hooks from the Staff Senate are both serving on this committee. The committee will meet again on March 14. Although there is wide representation from all over the campus on this committee, some campus-wide forums will be held to discuss the issue.
4. Staff senator elections for 2017-2019 will be held soon. Also, it is time to accept nominations for the annual John "Booty" Murray Outstanding Staff Member Award. Steve Clark will be sending out the emails regarding these two items in the coming days.

Announcements from Senate Members:

1. Dana Waldrop invited all to attend the Free Spaces unveiling at the Library/Writing Center on March 8. The event will be held to showcase the new multi-modal room. Refreshments will be served.

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Pepper.

*Molly Pepper*