Student Affairs Staff Council

Meeting Minutes 09/16/2015

Council Members Present: Julie (Housing & Dining), Megan (Student Money Management Center), Paula (ASUN Student Government), Linda (Center for Civic Engagement), Gary (Campus Recreation), Amy (Student Involvement & Nebraska Unions), Kacey (VCSA Office), Jon (Greek Affairs), Joan (Trio), Kerra (OASIS)

• There are 3 new Staff Council members joining us for the first time today- Jon Gayer from Greek Affairs, Joan Mendoza-Gorham from Trio, and Kerra Russell from OASIS

• Staff Professional Development-Kacey
  o Kacey said we need another speaker for the October Professional Development offering on team building
  o Joan said she had a couple suggestions for speakers and would reach out to them
  o The first professional development seminar will be on Money Management presented by Megan Scherling from the Student Money Management Center. It will be on Wednesday, September 30th from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in the Gaughan Unity Room 212.

• Fall Celebration Update- Kacey
  o Kacey explained what Fall Celebration is to the new Staff Council members
  o Kacey asked how we should set up the donation table for OpeN Shelf
    ▪ Julie said herself and Amy will look for a cart so that it will be easy to transport the donations to OpeN Shelf and she said Selleck employees can make a sign for the table
  o Kacey said 120 people have RSVP’d so far and out of them, 37 are new employees. Kacey suggested not doing RSVP’s for next year since many people come without RSVPing
    ▪ Amy suggested sending out the email again to remind people to come and to RSVP
  o Julie said she will bring clickers to use to count people for what we will be charged for food
  o Gary and Joan said they would help greet people as they walk in and Paula said Jessie would do the clicker count
  o Linda suggested asking the Center for Civic Engagement photographer to take pictures of the event
  o Julie said she would see if we could get into the room on Thursday to start decorating early. (As per her email, set up will be Thursday from 2-3 pm)
  o Kacey said for the raffle, entries will be the people who RSVP’d
    ▪ Amy suggested including that on the reminder email
  o Kacey said new employees will have name tags printed for them and will have to check in at Husker Heroes for the new employee welcome
    ▪ Julie suggested adding their department to their name tag
  o Julie and Kacey mentioned that the theme for Fall Celebration is 1950’s and that the Staff Council should dress for the theme
Julie suggested putting together some sort of playlist to play when people are coming in before Fall Celebration starts
  - Kacey said she would put something together on Pandora

Kacey mentioned that Boots & Cats will be doing a short performance after everyone eats breakfast and before Dr. Franco’s State of the Division speech. They will be singing 50’s songs and may be dressing up as well.

Kacey mentioned that the Staff Council will be introduced to new employees

- **VCSA Office’s Report - Linda**
  - Linda said that Dr. Franco wanted to know our responses or what we had heard from students regarding the pastors saying controversial things on the Union plaza last week. Linda said the pastors had been harassing specific Muslim students and women. She also mentioned that Dr. Franco will be meeting with the Muslim Student Association to talk with them about it. Chancellor Perlman sent out an email explaining that because they were in a Free Speech Zone, there isn’t much we can do about them except ignore them
    - Paula mentioned that a couple people were blocking a sidewalk by Love Library a couple days prior to that incident as well
    - Linda also mentioned that Pastor Adam White from the Lutheran Center was there as well with a sign that said “Rant to me about religion” and that students had positive responses to that and meaningful conversations with him
    - Joan said they had students come up to Trio to vent about it
    - Kerra said some freshmen had questions about why the pastors were on the plaza
    - Linda suggested having some sort of a card to hand out in the future with a list of resources for students if they wanted someone to talk to about it
    - Gary asked if the pastors had any affiliation with UNL and Linda said they do not
    - Jon mentioned that we could make them register if they want to speak in the free speech area
    - Amy said when people come to their office with questions about the free speech area they usually refer them to Chris Jackson
    - Amy mentioned that the union called police presence since the crowd was about 2x bigger than it usually is with these kinds of situations
    - Linda asked if there were any other things that should be brought up to Dr. Franco and there were no suggestions from the council

- **Department Updates**
  - **Amy - Student Involvement & Nebraska Unions**
    - There will be new lighting installed on the south side of the building and in the union fountain
    - The plaza cement has been breaking apart in some places so they will be looking at policies on weight restrictions on the plaza
  - **Jon - Greek Affairs**
- They will be participating in the Big 10 assessment on Greek Life, and a survey will be sent out in November
- New officers will be starting in their positions soon
- Policies are being looked at for BYOB events so houses can reduce their liability
  - Paula - ASUN Student Government
    - There was a good turnout for the 9/11 day activities
    - Voter registration is 9/17
    - Constitution day is coming up
  - Gary - Campus Rec
    - Attendance is up 10% from last year
    - There are a lot of trips coming up
  - Linda - Center for Civic Engagement
    - Many students participated in the 9/11 day of service
    - There are trips coming up, for example, some students are going to the Black Hills over fall break
    - For “Give Back Big” there will be two $1000 prizes for projects to make campus better. One of the winners will be selected by students and the other will be selected by staff
    - The E.N. Thompson lecture on 9/15 sold out and most students stayed for the question and answer session unlike previous years. This year the E.N. Thompson lecture series is focused on activism
    - The Title IX video training email will be coming out soon and it is strongly recommended that staff complete the training
    - Linda asked the Council if anyone knew of any resources for a homeless student
  - Kacey - VSCA Office
    - Parents’ Weekend is coming up on October 2-4
  - Megan - Student Money Management Center
    - The SMMC has been participating in Fall Check-In this week
    - The SMMC has been doing a lot of workshops for classes and residence halls
    - Lots of appointments have been scheduled lately
  - Joan - Trio
    - She said they work with a lot of high school students
    - She mentioned that students must qualify for their programs, for example, low-income and first generation
    - SSS gives students the opportunity to rent laptops and calculators, and provides tutoring opportunities as well
  - Kerra - OASIS
    - They have had a lot of events lately, including OASIS welcome, the stroll off, professional development events for OASIS staff and peer mentors, etc.
    - Dish It Up is every Tuesday from 12-1 pm in the OASIS lounge. This is an opportunity for students to voice their opinions on current issues
    - Lunch & Learn is every first Friday of the month. The first one was on study abroad.
    - Study Stop is available for students
- Julie- Dining Services & Housing
  - Conference services will be putting up pricing for 2016 and applications/requests will be open on October 1st
  - The housing showcase will be on October 11th from 1-4 pm. There is free transportation to this event from Kearney, Omaha, and Grand Island
  - Some RDs were assigned to different halls
  - The housing contracting period will be open in November

- The next Staff Council Meeting will be Wednesday, October 21st at 1:30 pm in room 213 of the City Union