

Professional Staff Senate report to the Faculty Senate

April 30, 2008 for May 2, 2008 Faculty Senate Meeting

Last ProSen meeting, April 9, 2008, 2 – 4 p.m., 144 Luther Bonney

The following items and initiatives were discussed:

- President's report given by Judy Ryan, including updates on USM employee reduction, the academic program watch list, and the new USM president, Selma Botman, beginning on July 1.
- Bylaws committee working on bringing the Senate's bylaws and the USM Governance Constitution in line.
- Retention and Engagement Committee published its first "Spotlight Interview" about Lisa Pappajohn, Academic Advisor, and student Zoe Schneller, junior and orientation leader. "Spotlight" has been linked on the HR and USM Web pages, and two other profiles are currently being worked on. Anyone can send recommendations for future spotlight articles about professional staff that are making a difference in student retention and engagement. These can be sent to any Professional Staff Senate member for forwarding to the Retention and Engagement Committee.
- In the area of Communications, the ProSen Web site is being kept up to date, and plans for a Professional Staff Newsletter are in the works. Suggestions for content are welcome.
- Elections process has gone well. The results have not yet been announced.
- The last meeting for the current Senate is in June and will be for all current and all incoming senators. The new senate takes over in July. Recommendations are being made to new senate for continuity of planning, and the possibility is being discussed about how to mentor new senators.
- The Senate chair is looking into possible mileage compensation from the Senate budget for LAC and Augusta Senators traveling to Portland for meetings. In the interest of overall cost savings, it seems to make more sense than rotating the meeting location, and may support participation at meetings for those at LAC and Augusta.
- May meeting will include updates on Senate awards, elections, constitution/by-laws, and senator mentors. Also content for the Web site, plus a possible visit from a Marketing and Brand Management representative.

Next meeting of the Professional Staff Senate will be May 14, 2008.

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