Augsburg College  
Staff Senate  
Wednesday, November 5, 2014  
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Lindell Library 301

Present: Kelly Anderson-Diercks, Mark Chamberlain, Michael Grewe, Jim Matthias, Martha Truax

Absent: Seth Lienard, Dulce Monterrubio, Joanne Reeck

Items in bold are action items.

1. Approving Minutes
   a. The minutes from October 15 were approved.

2. Governance Updates
   a. President
      i. Jim and Mark met with the President last Thursday. They discussed the Community Engagement Day. President Pribbenow suggested this happen in both the fall and spring.
      ii. They thanked the President for the spot at the table at the Board of Regents meeting.
   b. Leadership Council
      i. Discussed innovation initiatives the Augsburg has done in the past 30 years in order to foster discussion around future innovation.

3. Committee Updates
   a. Diversity & Inclusion
      i. A diversity and inclusion survey was sent to every student on Monday, October 27. Please encourage your students to take it if they have not already.
   b. Safety
      i. Martha was absent at the last safety committee meeting.
      ii. Another meeting is taking place next week.
   c. IT
      i. We will take IT off of the agenda for future meetings, as Staff Senate does not have a reserved spot on this committee.
   d. College Resource Committee
      i. Nothing to report.

4. Community Service Day
   a. 7 people were in first shift; 9 people, in the second shift.
   b. The major goal of the event should be giving opportunities to staff members to utilize their community service hours.
   c. Spring date could happen during spring break, and we could extend the invitation to faculty, students, and alumni.
      i. We settled on either Tuesday, March 17, or Thursday, March 19.
      ii. Martha will check with Mary Laurel and Steve to see which date would work better.

5. Staff Appreciation Awards
   a. Awards Nomination Process
      i. We will move to a completely online nominations form. Mike will create this form and look over the wording.
ii. The award submission window will be Monday, January 5 through Friday, February 13.

iii. We will be meeting on Monday, February 23 to select the recipients of the awards.
   
b. Martha will set a meeting time with her, Mike, Dulce, Seth, and Mark to discuss publicity of these awards.
   
c. Mike will confirm the date of the Staff Appreciation Awards with Event and Conference Planning and the President.
   
d. Mike will also research those who have won it in past years.

6. Social Choice Option in the Retirement Plan
   a. Our new retirement plan option does not include a Social Choice option. Social Choice options have certain limits set on them that are considered “socially responsible,” such as not funding big oil, big tobacco, etc.
   
b. Augsburg stopped providing it because they did not want to slow down the shift to our new options.
      i. Human Resources has said they are looking into new Social Choice options.
   
c. Several staff members have said that they wanted it back because it aligns with Augsburg’s mission of being socially responsible.
   
d. Kelly will write a letter to Dionne to let her know that we have received feedback around adding a new Social Choice option.

7. Connecting Alumni with Current Students in Mentorship Program
   a. Institutional Advancement has a mentorship program called “Augsburg Builds Connections” (ABC Program) that connects students with alumni.
      i. The program currently does not have a focus on retention. It is more focused on students who would like to have an alumni mentor.
      ii. There are many alumni who want to be mentors, but there are not as many students who have requested wanting alumni.
      iii. There are currently 27 partnerships.

8. Auggie Pride Awards
   a. Individuals who do not win will be moved forward one month; if they do not receive it again, they will be contacted that they were nominated, did not receive it, but share their nomination.
   
b. Stephen Geffre and Sarah Griesse won for October.
      i. Mark will contact the winners.

9. Next Meeting
   a. Our next Staff Senate meeting is Wednesday, November 19 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in Marshall Room. The Open Forum guest will be William Mullen and Rick Ellis.