**UALR Staff Senate**

February 19, 2015

DSC room D

**Call to Order**

Shanna Morris, President, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**Roll Call**

A sign-in sheet was distributed. Members, both elected and honorary, present were:

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| Joshua Thomsen | Christopher Hickman | Clayton Andrews | Lauren Russ |
| Shanna Morris | Jennifer Godwin | Rodney Crownover | Thomas Redd, Jr. |
| Arrayon Farlough | Linda Stipsky | Leanna Payton |  |

**Treasurer’s Report**

Laura McClellan, Treasurer, was unable to be at the meeting. However she sent her report to Shanna Morris, who in turn reported on the financial standing of Staff Senate. Since the January meeting, there has been very little activity in the account. However, a scholarship in the amount of $250 was returned, bringing the balance to $1,632.02

Shanna also reported that Kroger income from the last quarter of 2014 was $177.28. It is expected that Kroger will send us a check in that amount by March 1st.

**Reading of Minutes**

Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed by Staff Senate members. Thomas Redd, Jr. moved to approve the minutes, Christopher Hickman seconded, the vote carried, and the minutes were accepted.

**Committee Reports**

The following committees gave reports (committees not listed had nothing to report):

* Achievement Awards - Jennifer Godwin reported. The nomination forms for these awards are on the website.
* Awards Ceremony - Christopher Hickman reported. The last meeting was postponed due to snow.
* Blood Drive - Shanna Morris reported in Karen Lee’s absence. The next drive is planned for Feb 25.
* Campus Campaign - Clayton Andrews reported. Planning has begun for next school year’s campaign. Currently, they are looking for department volunteers.
* Communications - Jennifer Godwin reported. The Staff Senate spring newsletter will be out next week. Anyone who has a story should report it. This could include personal updates such as weddings, accomplishments, etc.
* Development - Arrayon Farlough reported. The committee is still negotiating a trip to Hot Springs. The Spring Fling will be on March 14. Tickets are now available. RSVP on the website.
* Governance - Shanna Morris reported. Chelsea Bishop is working to correct the language on the constitutional revisions which were passed earlier this school year.
* Helping Hands - Thomas Redd, Jr. reported. The minutes for the committee follow-up meeting were sent to Joshua Thomsen. They will be made public.
* Professional Development - Joshua Thomsen reported in Sabrenna Rodgers-Lee’s absence. Sabrenna is waiting to hear some final info about the Dave Ramsey classes.
* Public Outreach - Frances Frazier was absent, but she emailed a report to the listserv. The committee is working with Ron Copeland to set up a volunteer opportunity to work with Keep Arkansas Beautiful.

**Open Forum**

A question is raised about the structure of Staff Senate within the greater UALR Assembly. Some senators feel that Staff Senate is seen as subordinate to Faculty Senate. Shanna Morris will ask Dr. Wright (Assembly president) to come speak at one of our meetings about this.

Jennifer Godwin brought up the topic of staff attendance at Trojan sporting events. She asked the group if they attend games regularly, and if not, why not. Some suggestions to help drive staff attendance include special staff and family packages, partnering with departments for promotions, and more diverse events at the games. The idea was broached to create a sub-committee to meet with the athletic department to discuss this.

Leanna Payton reported that housing is hosting a polar bear plunge event to raise money for students to attend an Alternative Spring Break trip.

Arrayon Farlough reported that the Toastmasters meetings were moving to Mondays at noon in DSC D.

**Adjournment**

Lauren Russ moved to adjourn the meeting with multiple seconds. That motion carried, and Shanna Morris called the meeting to a close at 10:58 a.m.