

**Marquette University Committee On Staff**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**Thursday, November 19, 2009**  
**AMU Henke Lounge**

Present: **Sherri Lex**, Provost Office Representative/Chair; **Kristina Fisher**, Senior VP Office Representative/Vice Chair; **Carrie Kratochvil**, Provost Office Representative; **Jeremy Saperstein**, Member at Large; **Melissa Econom**, Provost Office Representative; **Jessica Lothman**, Area Representative

Excused: **Ellen Blonski**, Historian; **Mike Cosgrove**, Member at Large/Treasurer; **Barbara Fedran**, Member at Large; **Gwenyth Murphy**, Senior VP Office Representative; **Lori Ozminkowski**, Provost Office Representative/Secretary

Absent: **Sheila Kershek**, Provost Office Representative

The meeting was called to order at 2:14 p.m.

### **Committee On Staff Topics**

#### ***Welcome to New Members***

The newly elected members were welcomed to COS. Melissa Econom is an Office Associate in the College of Education and has been taking classes at Marquette toward a Masters in Educational Policy and Leadership. Jessica Lothman is an Office Associate in the Office of International Education and has also been taking classes toward a Masters in Educational Policy and Leadership. Each of the present members went around giving a brief introduction of themselves for the new members.

#### ***Employee Concerns***

An employee brought up concern over difficulty in affording the membership to the Rec Plex and Rec Center.

- The cost of membership for employees runs between \$120 and \$210 for an academic year.
- A question was raised about the \$50 refund from insurance that used to be in effect.
- A suggestion was submitted to check into the possibility of using Flex Spending to offset some of the cost of membership.
- A recent Wellness Committee survey included several questions regarding this issue. The Wellness Committee will be looking into the issue as they compile results of the survey.
- Melissa Econom is a member of the Wellness Committee and will submit our employee concern to Mandi Weis, the Wellness Committee chair.

The committee discussed a distribution list for all Committee on Staff members.

#### ***Progress Report***

*Centennial Celebration of Women at Marquette*

The email was sent out to all female support staff on Thursday, November 19, 2009, inviting them to share their own experiences at Marquette as support staff and students.

#### *Vending Machines and ATM Machines*

Sheila was looking into this employee concern from our October 2009 meeting. She was not present to report on any update.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

#### ***Webmaster***

Since we did not have a photographer at our October 2009 meeting, we decided to take pictures to update our website at our December 2009 meeting. Jessica Lothman offered to bring her camera to the meeting to take head shots and a group photo. We should all be ready to have our photos taken at our December meeting.

#### ***Web Content***

Sherry mentioned that some of the content on the website is outdated, for example, on the "About Us" page. Carrie agreed to look at the website and follow up on necessary updates.

#### ***Public Relations***

No report was submitted.

#### ***Nominations and Elections***

Jeremy asked to be added to the Nomination and Elections sub-committee, since he works so closely with the committee on the nomination and election processes. Kristina reported that the recent interim election went well. The new online format, with the ability to target only those staff within each area, seemed to make the election process smoother. The election turnout was larger than expected, perhaps due to the move to online elections. We will definitely use this format in future elections. Support staff elected one Area Representative from the Office of the Provost, filling that area's representation. They also elected one Area Representative from the Office of the Senior Vice President, leaving two vacant positions in that area. No one accepted their nomination from the Office of the President, leaving one vacant position in that area as well. During the election discussion, it was discovered that Jessica Lothman, who was elected from the Office of the Senior Vice President, actually falls under the Office of the Provost. The Committee on Staff will need to discuss the situation with Jessica, as well as the possibility of filling the vacant positions on an interim basis, with those staff, who ran in the election but were not elected. With so many committee members absent, a discussion will be initiated via email before the December meeting to follow up on the election results.

### **All-University Committee Summary**

#### ***University Parking***

No report was submitted.

#### ***University Safety***

Kristina read excerpts from the All-University Safety Committee October 30, 2009 minutes. Crime stats were reviewed, and overall crime is down in the area. The semester had two armed robberies, both occurring on the same night, by the same suspect. In comparison, UW-

Milwaukee has experienced a large number of crimes this semester. Marquette's success in reducing crime was explained by the presence of cameras around the campus and in the surrounding neighborhood. A recent concern over students jay walking, exacerbated by a student being struck while crossing the street, has led to an increase in MPD on campus giving out tickets to jay walkers. There is now a text messaging alert system in place. Seven thousand students signed up, and employees can sign up as well through MyJob.

### ***AMU Advisory Board***

The design and menu at the new Sports Annex have undergone changes. An ongoing concern by employees regarding the waiting period for food has been addressed, and wait times have been significantly reduced, according to Todd Vicker. Employees should now be able to "get in and out within their lunch period." The Varsity Theater has also undergone changes, worth checking out. Band rooms in the basement of the theater have been redone to increase practice space for students. In addition, the student request to add pianos in dorms has been completed. There are now pianos for student use in Marquette dorms.

### ***Marquette Sustainability***

New Buildings—No official report was submitted. Committee members discussed informally the opening of MU Central in the new Zilber Hall. MU Central's new location and new website are up-and-running to assist students in a wide array of student services.

Supplier/Vending—No report was submitted.

Recycling—No report was submitted.

Natural Resources & Utilities—No report was submitted.

### ***Excellence in University Service***

No report was submitted.

### ***Employee Wellness***

No report was submitted.

**Jeremy moved and Carrie seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:11 p.m.**

**Our next COS meeting will take place on Thursday, December 17, 2009 from 2-4 p.m. in the AMU, Henke Lounge.**