

Staff Council 2009 – 2010

As the exiting Staff Council Chair, this has been a wonderful year. Thank you for allowing me to serve you. It brought about challenges and great joys to work with such brilliant people. We had some real go getters on our team and I was happy to be part of it. We have worked hard to provide more opportunities for staff to network around campus. The goal is to continue this trend and find more ways to help you grow as staff members. Please don't hesitate to contact us by e-mail, staffcouncil@shsu.edu, about inquires you may have regarding our great campus.



As my time has ended, please join me in welcoming your new Chair, Kristie Kelarek, to the spotlight. She has been heavily involved in the Staff Council decision making and will make a great leader. You can keep up with the upcoming events by checking the Staff Council website.



Staff Council voted to give, on the behalf of staff, \$250.00 to the scholarship in President Gaertner's name. The account known as the Friends of Staff Council will be debited for this amount. Thanks for donating to this account and we have more ideas on ways to utilize these funds to benefit you in the future.

The overview of the 2009-2010 Staff Council year is as follows:

Administrative Committee:

The committee met to discuss a Staff Council Scholarship and the details concerning the possibility of having one available to distribute 2012. The outcome is that more money is needed in the Friends account. Once an amount is accumulated, then to talk with the Scholarship Office to get more details on award procedures. They also met concerning a request from staff about the sick time policy and donating time to others. The outcome is that this would need to be changed by the Board or State of Texas.

Communications Committee:

This committee is responsible for informing the public about events and any information relevant to staff. The website has updated minutes and we worked with the PR Committee to send out notices about upcoming networking opportunities. Website still has some development ideas and will continue to be the Council's source of information.



Campus Enhancement Committee:

The Campus Enhancement Committee planned and organized Earth Day activities on April 21. Promoworld donated environmentally-friendly organic cotton "Earth Day at SHSU" t-shirts and these were passed out to faculty, staff, and students who participated in the activities by leaving a

recycling item. The Committee worked in conjunction with the SHSU Recycling program to raise awareness of the regular drop off location and pick-up times at the CHSS turnaround. This was done in hopes of encouraging members of the SHSU community to continue the practice after Earth Day.



Sherry Henke, Julie Schwab and Trisha Allen helping with the Recycling efforts.

The committee is also monitoring the creation of an updated ADA access map on campus. Kelley Osborne from Counseling Services and Mary Holland from the Physical Plant are working on this endeavor. The existing map on our website still showed buildings that did not exist anymore such as Frels Wilson and was so out of date that it was removed. Until the new map is created, the campus does not have an ADA map. The committee hopes this process will be complete during the Fall 2010 semester.

Public Relations Committee

The committee is responsible for planning and advertising Staff Council. They decide on the best dates for events and publicize with the assistance of the Communications Committee. The events are to aid in morale boosters and allow Staff members to network with those from all over campus. The following events were planned for the FY 09-10 timeframe.

Staff Appreciation Breakfast

November 17th 8:30-9:30

C Java – 2nd floor

Hot Chocolate w/ Staff Council

January 27th 8:30-9:30

LSC 320

Cinco de Mayo Nacho Lunch
May 5th 11:30-1:00
LSC Ballroom

Ice Cream Social
July 8th 2:30-4:00
LDB Atrium



Informational Resources friends enjoying lunch.

Spotlight on Staff:

November: Patty Turner – Residence Life
December: Maria Busby – Registrar Office
January: Molly Doughtie – College of Education
February: Sonya Ramarez – Psychology
March: Jennifer Davis – Athletics
April: Tammy Gustafson – UPD
May: Kelly Bentsen - CS

Staff Development Committee:

When we first met we talked about the purpose of the Staff Development Committee. It was to review and recommend ways for staff to benefit from training programs that address such issues as career and professional development, continuing education, etc.

We met and talked about what opportunities already existed on campus for Staff Development. There is very little communication between departments about training and development opportunities, though several departments offer training. Our committee researched several departments and through this we discovered the PACE (Professional and Academic Center for Excellence) Center. This office exists to provide staff development training to faculty/staff/students at SHSU. We met with Dr. Harman to help her develop training to meet the needs of staff. She developed Appropriate Assertiveness training and put it on twice, February 11th and March 25th. It was well attended by Council.



We also met with Human Resources and learned that they have hired a person to coordinate training between all departments in the university. This will provide better communication about opportunities for staff. We hope that Staff Council will continue to partner with the PACE Center in the future to provide information about the needs of staff at SHSU and that this partnership will be mutually beneficial.