

**Faculty/Staff Welfare Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2008**

Members Present: Dr. Birdie Bailey, Dr. Kimberly A. Greenway, Ms. Kari-Kay Harp, Dr. Rick Lester, Dr. Janice Myhan, Ms. Amy Thompson, and Ms. Catherine White. Ms. Becky Price, Benefits Specialist, attended as a resource person

Dr. Greenway called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m., at which time introductions were made by previous committee members and new committee members.

Dr. Bailey motioned for approval of the Agenda. Dr. Myhan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Greenway reviewed the committee charge and entertained questions regarding the committee's work. Dr. Lester inquired as to whether the committee addresses faculty and staff training/development. Dr. Greenway described previous committee business items forward from the Faculty and/or Staff Senate bodies related to professional development, and Ms. Harp confirmed that the Staff Senate is currently having discussions about related items that may be forwarded to the Faculty Staff Welfare Committee in the future.

Dr. Greenway gave an overview of the Vice Chair position. Kari-Kay Harp was nominated and approved by acclamation.

The 2008-2009 meeting dates were approved by unanimous vote.

Dr. Greenway advised that, upon approval of the committee minutes each month, they will be submitted for posting on the Shared Governance website.

Dr. Greenway updated the committee on the work of the Staff Handbook Ad Hoc Committee and noted that recommended Handbook changes would be brought to the next meeting for approval. Discussion also ensued as to whether the Ad Hoc committee's work is needed further or whether it should be dissolved. Further discussion on this topic will be addressed at the next committee meeting.

Ms. White gave an update regarding the Flexible Spending Plan and the previous presentations made by providers. She also explained the benefits and risks of the program.

Ms. Harp will bring information regarding Sick Leave Bank to the next committee meeting.

Ms. Harp gave a brief update on the Blue Cross Blue Shield Wellness Initiative. It is a new initiative that she hopes the Faculty Staff Welfare Committee will help to promote.

During Discussion a concern regarding maximum allergy benefits that was forwarded to the Office of Human Resources was discussed. Catherine White will address the concern with Blue

Cross and will investigate the costs of increasing the benefit, and the item will be brought up in new business at a future meeting.

Another item regarding risk of blood contact for instructors who teach labs and the possibility of Hepatitis B vaccines was brought forward during Discussion. Committee members discussed other instructional areas that might also present possible risks and estimated the costs of the university providing the vaccines. Dr. Bailey stated that the vaccines are required for nursing instructors and the costs are incurred by the instructor. Committee members were asked to gather feedback from their constituents for the item to be addressed as new business in the next meeting.

There was no other business, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:57 p.m. The Minutes were kept by Amy Swinford and Dr. Greenway.