

**Summary**  
**Staff Council Meet & Greet - 3/23/06**  
**Davidson Room, Memorial Center**

The Staff Council invited all staff to an open forum to meet the council members and to give an update on the Council's progress.

Patrick opened the meeting with an introduction and a brief outline of events that led to the formation of the Staff Council. Each council member then introduced him/herself and Patrick noted the activities the council has worked on since the fall, including committee elections, the working draft, formation of subcommittees, as well as the purpose of today's forum: to hear from staff about what they believe the Council should work on. The floor was then opened for comments. Members of the Council served as notetakers. Patrick asked each person to state their name and what they did on campus, but we have deleted those names in this document. Approximately 80 people attended.

From a lively discussion, the following topics emerged (not in rank order):

- 1) Purpose of the Staff Council and its subcommittees. Will this Council have teeth? Will it ever have the same function for staff that CUPP (Council for University Policies and Procedures – faculty governance) has for faculty? Can the staff expect results?
- 2) Will this committee help the efforts of HR?
- 3) Understaffing of Human Resources office, (University policies and procedures updated, online and easily accessible; job postings, sick time/vacation days info online)
- 4) Funding for continuing education credits and professional development, some of which are required for their jobs (eg, Counselors)
- 5) Frustration with the slowness of Committee work (however, several people expressed that their service on the Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee was overwhelmingly positive)
- 6) Tuition benefits? Is there still movement towards an equitable benefit?
- 7) Protocol for concerns
- 8) Communication issues in general (web page for posting questions; Campus newsletter with pictures of staff and classified ads; forms and procedures online; Will the Staff Council help to facilitate more face-to-face contact among colleagues?)
- 9) Credit Union information accessible online
- 10) Concerns about Business office policies and procedures
- 11) Move graduation off the quad
- 12) Four Seasons membership
- 13) Concern about Sick Time versus Short Term disability policy