Staff Council Debrief – February 11, 2014

Staff Council Committee Reports

Treasurer’s Report
As of January 31, 2014 the fund balance in the Baylor Staff Endowed Scholarship had gifts totaling $31,561.03 plus outstanding Pledges of $1,092.34 for a total of $32,653.37. Donor participation in the scholarship fund has been fantastic. The fund has increased by 50% over the past two years, which has allowed us to award student scholarships in 2012 and in 2013.

Scholarship Committee
Thank you letters and commemorative “Torch of Knowledge” pins were sent in early February to new donors who cumulatively gave $50.00 or more towards the scholarship. The thank you letter from the student who received the scholarship for fall 2013 is now posted on the Staff Council website.

Service Project
The Service Project will begin on February 12 and end on February 26, at the STEPP luncheon. Staff Council will be collecting socks for Friends for Life. Those donating can sign up for a drawing. Drawings for signed basketballs from Coach Kim and Coach Drew will be held that day.

STEPP
February 26 - McLane Stadium – Game Day 2014, Guest Speaker will be Brian Nicholson, AVP for Facility Planning and Construction. Socks will be collected benefitting Friends For Life. The luncheon will begin with a view of the stadium from the 5th Floor of Cashion and will have a game day feel with dunking socks, a tailgate themed lunch, photo ops with Baylor Yell leaders and awesome door prizes. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

April 16 – 7 Values of Successful Communicator, guest speaker Dr. Anne Grinols.

University Committee Reports

Campus Diversity
The committee met on January 17 and reviewed two grant applications. Diversity Enhancement Grants were awarded to the Heavenly Voices Gospel Fest 2014 and to the Academy for Leader Development Lecture Series to be held in Fall 2014. Planning continued for the Cultural Connection Celebration which will be held January 30 with Dr. Jason Kirksey of Oklahoma State University delivering the keynote address. The call is going out for nominations for the 2014 Annual BU Diversity Award applications due by March 31.

The committee met on February 7 and reviewed three grant applications. One Diversity Enhancement Grant was awarded to the McNair Scholar Recruitment Event. Two applications were returned for further information. The committee also discussed the recent Cultural Connection Celebration and made tentative plans for 2015.

Constitution and By-laws
The Constitution committee met on January 28 at 3:00 pm. Discussion was on the format of the constitution. The committee present the new format at the March meeting to be voted on at the April meeting.
Tobacco and Smoke Free Campus
The committee met on Friday, January 31 at 4:00 pm to discuss any feedback received from students, staff, or faculty as it relates to the policy announcement. The committee discussed: where to place signs; announcing the policy at sporting events, and continuing to talk about the policy, which will go into effect on August 11, 2014.

Faculty Senate
Faculty Senate met on January 14 discussing the validity of using academic analysis to determine faculty promotion and/or tenure and to obtain resources for departments.

Old Business

Human Resources Survey/Ombuds Position
Sue Koehler opened up the meeting for discussion on the Staff Ombuds position. Several members stated their opinion whether staff needed an Ombudsperson. After 15 minutes of discussion, a motion was made to continue discussion by John Lowe and seconded by Sherri Honza. After further discussion, a motion was made by John Lowe and seconded by De-De Henson to create an Ad Hoc committee. The motion passed.