Staff Council University Advocacy

4/12/13

Members in Attendance: Lesli Walls - Chair, Robin Weinant, Debbie Gonzalez

Agenda Items

- **Carolyn Sampson Scholarship** – Committee felt it was important to try and have a staff council member on the selection committee as this scholarship was established by the staff council. The committee contacted Financial Aid to determine their process. They have already pulled possible qualified candidate pool and forwarded it on to the selection committee for the FY13-14. They forwarded on 39 possible applicants. The selection is based up on several factors giving a higher ranking to single head of households needing financial assistance. We may have missed the opportunity to be on this year’s selection committee, the Financial Aid is checking into that and will be getting back to us. The staff council member would have to be selected at this meeting if the opportunity is still available. That person cannot be one that has contributed to the fund as it would be a conflict of interest. If more than 1 person would like to participate we recommend a drawing of that name.

- **Staff Council Travel Support Fund** – The committee has checked with the foundation to see if the funds could be modified to be used for other uses other than just airfare. Unfortunately the Administrative Agreement that was established has made it inflexible for such requests to use it for any other purpose. With the funds current balance it would only offer a small portion of a single traveler’s airfare. The committee did discuss possible fund raising activities but before moving forward with that idea we need to discuss with the staff council if this is something that we would like to undertake or would we like to possibly consider a new fund that would be able to be used for other staff training and advancement opportunities such as professional development classes that are not tuition based or conference registration fees.

- **Staff Mentoring** – The committee still believes this to be a good idea but need to find method to see if we could get buy in from the staff to commit time to help mentor those that wish to seek improvement or skill for advancement into positions within the University.

- **Campus Tours** – It was decided to table this topic until after Summer when everyone’s schedule resumes a normal pace and find locations and offer them in late fall and early spring. If you know of any locations that would be of interest to the staff to see what the University has to offer please forward on those ideas to Lesli Walls.

This committee would truly benefit from additional members – Please consider volunteering time and ideas that we could take on to advocate on behalf of the staff to get the message out there how important we are to the daily operations of the University.