

MONTHLY COMMITTEE and/or LIAISON REPORT

COMMITTEE OR LIAISON: **Staff Benefits, Policies & Development**

DATE & LOCATION

OF MEETING: **Wednesday, September 2nd, 11am, Council Room, LSU Student Union**

ATTENDANCE: Senator Nikki Godfrey and Senator Aaron Cherry, co-chairs, Senator Nancy Arnold, Senator Jennifer Gomez, Senator Brent Corbitt, Senator Shelly Ortiz, Melanie Milton, President Tammy Millican

Senator Kevin Owens (A)

SUMMARY: We had a great opening meeting for the committee. Following introductions, President Millican detailed the charge for the committee and her hopes for the committee's work for the year. President Millican encouraged the committee to be proactive and ensure that our voices are heard. Following President Millican's address, the committee reviewed the Staff Senate's policies including the responsibilities of the committee.

The committee then discussed initiatives that we would like to explore during the year. Some of those initiatives include: additional professional development and training opportunities; lunch and learn events; explanation of health and wellness benefits. Additionally the committee agreed to explore working on a resolution to call for an investigation of the crisis leave policies and procedures. The committee also recommended that we have a representative to attend the HR Contact meetings so that we ensure that the staff voice is present and heard during discussions regarding policies and procedures. Lastly, the committee agreed to work on a comprehensive list of potential benefits that could be offered to staff members, so that in times of limited budgets and lack of raises, that list could be shared with Deans and department heads in an effort to improve morale.

The committee will also work focus on the New Employee Welcome Event. The date is tentatively penciled in for November 2, 2015; we request approval of the date from the Executive Board so that we can move forward with the planning for the event.

The committee would also like to sponsor its first Lunch and Learn with Ramon Lopez. Ramon will speak on degree programs and options for non-traditional students in addition to the University's tuition waiver program. The committee requests approval from Exec to move forward with the planning for this event.

Future meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 11am.

Submitted By: Senator Nikki Godfrey