University of Hartford

Staff Association Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 9 – GSU 345 – 1:00 p.m.

Present: Christine Adams, Jessica Abbott, Ann Brown, Ellen Crandall, Judy Denny, Carla Fuller, Valerie Gilleran, Ben Ide, Ellen Levasseur, Aubrey McCarthy, Lindsay McKeegan, Therese Morris, Cindy Oppenheimer, Catherine Rose, Gina Signorello (recorder), Bonny Taylor

I. Introductions

- Members in attendance introduced themselves and stated which department they work in.

II. Guest Speaker Mike Kaselouskas

- Kaz offers a Threats on Campus training session through Empower
- He has done walkthroughs with some departments to give his professional opinion on the safest locations during a threat to campus
- Question and Answer segment-
  - Q- Is the Threats on Campus session different every time?
    - A- It is a little different every time because new information is being added weekly. Kaz brought up that the Sports Center may be a target since it can hold so many people. A member of the Staff Association from Athletics will reach out to Kaz about a walkthrough. Valerie Gilleran would like to schedule a walkthrough for ENHP as well.
  - Q- Are students trained?
    - A- No, student sessions are voluntary except for RAs and SGA
  - Q- How come there aren’t established drills for a threat on campus just like a fire drill?
    - A- The request needs backing. Kaz believes it should be mandatory.
  - Q- Is there anything the Staff Association could do?
    - A- Walt and Arosha have heard about the training and support it but have not made it a mandatory thing. Kaz has been denied time at Freshman Orientation. It would take about six months to plan a drill of this kind.
  - Q- Is it possible to have a recorded simulation?
    - A- Kaz noted that there is already a video on the website. Maybe it would be beneficial to send out the link to the video once a semester. Maybe this information could be included in the One Stop Shopping Event for adjuncts.
    - Kaz mentioned a new product that can be put on glass to make it bullet-proof. He is getting a quote but it is expensive.
    - He is trying to work with the Lockshop to get all magnetic locks so buildings could be locked down.
  - Q- What about panic buttons?
    - A- Kaz is getting a quote for a type of panic button- there should be something in place in the fall.
• The idea of more signage in the classrooms was brought up.

III. Discussion and Approval of Minutes
• Minutes from the February 10th meeting were approved.

IV. University Committee Reports-
• Budget Advisory Team
  o They had their first meeting since census. For spring 2016 the number of full-time undergraduates is up to 4,177 and part-time is down to 701 with a total of 4,878. The number of full-time graduates is at 684 and the number of part-time is down to 937.
  o They discussed 2017 recommendations.
• Wellness Committee
  o Shana Griffin is coming to campus again tomorrow in Hillier 242 from 12-1
  o They are reintroducing Community Supported Agriculture which is 20 weeks of fresh fruits and vegetables from a farm in Enfield
  o Tai Chi- Lindsay interviewed the teacher and the class is still in the planning phase
• Benefits Taskforce
  o There was discussion of Cadillac tax which could affect the University. It is a tax that is imposed on employers who give too rich of a benefits package- it is possible it won’t even happen.
  o They looked at future year’s agenda
• Presidential Commission for the Status of Women- no update

V. Staff Association Reports
• Web Advisory Committee
  o The University’s web site has been upgraded by the Cascade staff this past week. The purpose of the upgrade was to bring more organization and customization to content managers.
  o Some new features include:
    ▪ Stale content- helps users identify and take action on pages not being upgraded in a timely fashion.
    ▪ Drafts for new pages are saved automatically
    ▪ A new drag and drop section has been added for easier file uploading
    ▪ Comments can now be added to your pages explaining what you did or what still needs to be done on a page.
    ▪ Resizing a photo is easier.
    ▪ Better interaction with phones and tablets
• Faculty Senate
  o Provost reported on a new joint venture with Wesleyan called Hartford Books. Will publish four books on a trial basis.
  o Discussed the reorganization of the Office of Marketing and Communication
• Treasurer’s Report
• No change

- Membership Director Report
  - No change

- Fundraising Committee
  - Possible plant sale. Valerie will get a recommendation from Catherine Rose about where to get plants. Maybe the plant sale could join up with the food share.

VI. New Business

- The next meeting is the annual review
- The survey still needs work
- The speaker in May will be Norm Young

The meeting ended at 1:00