University of Hartford
Staff Association Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 11 – GSU 345 – 1:00 p.m.

Present: Jessica Abbott, Ellen Crandall, Judy Denny, Laura Eldredge, Marsha Gaulin, Valerie Gilleran, Lori Holden, Ellen Levasseur, Catherine Rose, Gina Signorello (recorder), Bonny Taylor, Norm Young, Linda Zigmont

I. Norm Young from Facilities gave a PowerPoint presentation about the new projects on campus. PowerPoint is attached.

II. University Committee Reports - not all reports were collected. Updates will be given at the next meeting
   • Budget Advisory Team
     i. Chuck Colarulli reported that approximately two weeks prior to the May deposit deadline, the admits and deposits are pretty much the same as last year. This is good as last year’s numbers were high. In particular, the Art School is 30 students ahead of last year’s numbers.
     ii. Lee Peters reported that housing deposits, similarly, are much better than the last few years. He indicated that we are getting about 90% of first year students.
     iii. Arosha Jayawickrema spoke about the various capital improvements across campus.
        1. The library renovation will break ground this coming summer 2016. The cost of the project estimated at $10.6 million will come from $7 million in savings from refinancing our bonds and $3.6 million in pledges.
        2. The Gengras building is slated to start renovations next spring 2017.
        3. Other projects in the works are spaces for Health Sciences and Engineering; residential; and ad hoc projects including athletics, Barney, Hillyer, and Asylum Ave Campus.
     iv. The recommendations for next year’s budget include funding to continue to bring full-time staff salaries to the midpoint. Efforts have been made in HRD, including a revised single Dialogue for Direction form that will aid in evaluating employees for merit/equity increases

III. Staff Association Reports - not all reports were collected. Updates will be given at the next meeting
   • Faculty Senate
     i. President Harrison reported that the Mayor's plan to tax Hartford hospital and colleges, including the University of Hartford, didn’t get approved. This was the last time that Sharon Vasquez spoke to the Faculty Senate. She and Fred Sweitzer talked about the faculties' annual review process.