Employee Advisory Committee

Division of Administration

February 28, 2012

Members Attending

Jennifer Bomnskie  Marco Campos  Brent Levens  Alicia Rodriguez
JC Odom  Robert Martinez  Chris Kurtz  Alan Skains
Daniel Martinez  Vickie Maxey  Steve Smith  Sylvia Ware
Rosemary Holmon  Arlin Garcia  Mae Crain

Ex-Officio Members

Jane Schneider  Ashley Skow  Sarah Tobola  Mary Fran Troy
James Massey  Karen Bigley

The minutes were reviewed by the members. A motion was made to approve them and it was seconded then all members voted to approve the minutes.

Administrative Report

Jane reported that Requests for Proposals (RFPs) have been sent out to potentially outsource University Dining, Building Maintenance, Custodial, and Landscape. At this time we do not know much about the process, as this initiative is being driven by the System and the Chancellor, who has indicated that employees’ jobs, salaries, and benefits would be taken under great consideration during the negotiations with outsourcing companies. These companies asked to tour campus and are going to be coming in the next few weeks. The RFPs can be found on this website: http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/.
However, it was mentioned that the RFPs are very general and do not give any details about the potential transition. That would all be discussed during the Proposal and Negotiation process. Employees should continue working as usual during this time of negotiations.

USC Report

Mary Fran reported that this Wednesday, February 29th Chancellor Sharp would be addressing the Student Senate at 5:30 P.M. at the General Service Complex in room 101 A&B. Employees can attend the meeting and stand outside showing support for the students who are speaking for them but are asked not to interfere in the proceedings. This is a student run meeting and they should ask the questions to Chancellor Sharp. On March 21, 2012 the University Staff Council will host an Open Forum
and Chancellor Sharp is the keynote speaker. All employees are invited to attend and ask questions in that meeting. EAC representatives should pass this information on to their employees departments.

**Benefits Report**

Sarah Tobola reported that employees retirement request would be handled on a case by case basis and that employees should be cautious in withdrawing their TRS Retirement. She said she does not have all the information yet and that it is too early in the process of RFP’s and employees should call for appointments to discuss their case individually. There are some help sessions coming up where employees can meet with Human Resources to discuss retirement and they could request packets without being locked into retirement.

Sarah reported that September 1, 2012 a tobacco user premium of $30 dollars would be applied to employees and their dependents who use tobacco of any kind. Employees will need to check their status in HR Connect and designate if they are a tobacco user. HR is compiling information on the various Tobacco Cessation Programs that are available to employees and will get that information sent out to everyone as soon as possible. Tobacco use is a choice people make and proceeds from the user premiums will go to fund wellness programs.

On March 2nd, 6th, and 12th employees whose last names start with A-L will receive notice regarding the dependent audit. Last names beginning with M-Z will be audited in Phase 2. This audit applies to those employees who claim a dependent on their TAMU insurance and were not audited last year.

**Old Business**

The request for soda machines is still unresolved or unsettled.

The Employee Assistance Program is available to employees who may need counseling during this stressful time.

**New Business**

JC Odom announced that he will be leaving his position with Texas A&M and this is his last meeting. He said Jennifer will Chair the next meeting in his absence.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded then all agreed to adjourn the meeting.