CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Staff Advisory Committee (SAC) was called to order at 12:15 pm with a reflection by Ms. Sandra Ford, chairperson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Virginia Antonacci, Jason Ayran, Diane Barbeau, Kathy Barbeau, Mary Ann Bindbeutel, Lin Cowick, Tanya Davis, Dawn DeLaria, Daria Dietz, Debbie Dill, Ken Gebken, Gayle Gilmore, Cara Gitchos, Joyce Huelsmann, Anne Imlay, Jackie Jackson, Charles Johnson, Elisabeth King, Elizabeth Lawrence, Yvonne McCool, Leantyene Neal, Jana Newell, Denise Pearson, Teresa Perry, Tammi Moore-Robinson, Kari Saunders, Colleen Schneider, Sue Stevens, Connie Tillman, Susan Torretta, Troy Turnipseed, Ellen Weis, Sheryll Williams, Debbie Wilson, Cyn Wise, Sally Zetzman

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Anna Beasley, Marsha Bennett, Teri Bertram, Mary Drexl, Mary Frazer, Ruth Hilderbrand, Janice Hurley, Alquinston Johnson, LaKisha Lloyd, Amanda McArthur, Karla Mosby, Carolyn Mulhall, Kathy Neiger, Kathy Patrylo, Marie Reynolds, Alison Roba, Rita Stites, Shirley Stringer, Cathy Zimmer

VISITORS: Adam Akers, Eric Anderson, James Banks, Sharon Biddle-Ferrell, Lawrence Biondi, S.J., LaTanya Buck, Charlotte Burnside, Aileen Cunningham, Barb Dempsey, Steven Dosenbach, Jennifer Duke, Stacy Duvall, Mark Ferris, Ken Fleischmann, Diana Foster, Patty Haberberger, Stephanie Hall, John Heartlein, Maria Hein, Diane Holloman, Kadi Johnson, Mark Knepf, Sam Kelner, Delia King, Glen Kemper, Karen Nolkemper, Katie O’Connell, Manoj Patankar, Kent Porterfield, Michele Prevedel, Susan Quinn, Cindy Ringkamp, Todd Robben, Jennifer Scheessele, Debra Schindler, Karla Scott, Jennifer Semsar, Julia Sewall, Laurinda Smith, Lisaa Terneus, Bobby Wasse, Bryan Weaver, Ken Wolters, Joe Zitta

MINUTES: The minutes of the March 18, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please place your ballot for the 2010 SAC Election for Executive Board members for 2010-2011. If you are a SAC member you were emailed directions to complete your ballot on line. The voting deadline is next Thursday, April 22nd at 11:00 am. The positions up for election are: Chair Elect, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Membership Coordinator.

Sandra took time to introduce and thank all present SAC Executive members for their work this past year.

Troy Turnipseed, Past Chair/Chair Elect
Cyn Wise, Corresponding Secretary
Kathy Barbeau, Recording Secretary
Tammi Moore Robinson, Membership Coordinator

Tammi has been the Membership Coordinator for the past 5 years and Sandra wanted Tammi to know that her commitment to SAC has been greatly appreciated.

Sandra also wanted to thank Lisa Terneus for arranging today’s lunch.

MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT: Diversity Panel Discussion
Sandra Ford started the Panel Discussion by saying, “We stand here today to say that we want to be part of the solution here at SLU.” Sandra continued by introducing the Panel-
Father Lawrence Biondi, S.J., SLU President
Ken Fleischmann, J.D., Vice President Human Resources
Kent Porterfield, Ph.D., Vice President Student Development
Jennifer Scheessele, J.D. Director of Diversity and Affirmative Action
Mark Ferris, PhD- Associate Professor- Faculty Senate Rep.
Mark Kneupfer, PhD- Professor- Faculty Senate Rep.
Karla Scott, PhD, Professor- Moderator

Each panel member was given 3 minutes to make a statement. After everyone speaks we will open up the discussion to all in attendance who may have questions that they wish to have addressed. Audience members were asked to submit their questions on cards if they wanted to be anonymous.

Father Biondi discussed with the group SLU’s stance on Diversity. SLU has always stood for Social Justice and Diversity and he let the audience know that as a university we will not tolerate issues of discrimination of any kind. In recent months several issues have surfaced on campus which have been and are being investigated to distinguish between rumors and fact.

Jennifer Scheesele feels SLU is creating men and women for others. As a group we need to be able reflect on our own identities. We need to be able to trust each other. Acts that have happened in the past are intolerable. Moving forward we need to educate our faculty, staff, and students so these incidents will not be repeated.

Kent Porterfield found that the recent events were very troubling to him. It gave him pause to reflect on the way things really are or are perceived to be. Not all students are having the same experiences here. We need to examine what kind of support is needed for all. Not necessarily doing entirely new things, but re-examining what we currently do.

Ken Fleischmann is looking at this issue from the Human Resource side. How can we partner with others to do better? How do we create an environment which is in keeping with our mission? How can we work with our faculty and staff to keep the best employees going forward? In light of the past incidents there has been a lot of pain. We need to examine programs for training that comfort these issues. We need to come together united in the future.

Mark Kneupfer feels like we turned a corner a while ago. These issues have made us realize that we are not as special as we thought. There is no limit in today’s world to bigotry. This shows that we are not as protected here as we thought we were. It is important to show students that there is a limit to “in your face”.

After these brief statements were made the audience members were asked to feel free to ask any questions or concerns that they might have. A hot line number was announced- 1-877-525-5669. This number can be used for any issues that faculty and staff feel are problems that need to be addressed.

The discussion was a good beginning and everyone agreed that we should continue this open dialogue in the future.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 20, 2010, The Annual SAC BBQ will be held at the Simon Rec. Center, SLURuba 4:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this event.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.
Submitted by
Kathy Barbeau, Recording Secretary