Saint Louis University
Staff Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2014

Call to Order: The meeting of the Staff Advisory Committee (SAC) was called to order at 12:00pm by Ms. Kathy Barbeau. Kathy delivered a reflection by Norman Vincent Peale.

Guests: Jeff Fowler, Vice President University Advancement, Heather Thornton, Learning & Development Manager

Attendance: Members: Karl Aldrich, Michael Bamber, Diane Barbeau, Kathy Barbeau, Joan Beaty, Larry Bommarito, Jodi Christy, Lauren Davis, Toni Dean, Dawn DeLaria, Amy Estlund, Diana Foster, Mary Ann Fox, Gayle Gilmore, Elizabeth Glauber, Pat Hoffarth, Delia King, Elisabeth King, Michael Mueller, Carolyn Mulhall, Donna Myers, Jana Newell, Terri Perry, Natalie Petelein, Patricia Pisarkiewicz, Nicole Purcell, Colleen Schneider, Rita Stites, Peggy Stelzer, Karen Stocke, Mary Streif, Bridget Turner, Patty Valentine, Regina Walton, Ellen Weis, Gina Williams, Debra Wilson, Cyn Wise, Jeanne Young, Cathy Zimmer

Visitors: Christina Butler, Gene Carroll, Lulu Dong, Joann Filla-Taylor, Jennifer Franey, Bob Gantner, Brittany Howard, Camille Lawson, Shirley McMillian, Kent Miller, Marguerite Moore, Jeremy Nagle, Kalen Reichert, Amanda Sahaida, Sophia Toumbalakis

Minutes: The November 21, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Announcements: Regina Walton announced Alumni Relations is collecting items to be included in Valentine baskets that will be given to members of the St. Louis Community. Items may be dropped off in DuBourg Hall room 314A. Departments that have a large number of items may contact Regina at: rwalton1@slu.edu or by calling her at 977-2622 to arrange a time the items will be picked up. Deadline for donations is Friday, February 7, 2014.

Heather Thornton announced the Learning and Development department at Saint Louis University would be sending an email on February 3 that will introduce the department’s new services. Employees will be invited to complete an interest form for 2014.

Monthly Spotlight: Jeff Fowler discussed the results of the April 2013 Climate Survey. Psychological Associates conducted the survey. The overall response rate was 22.9%. The survey covered three specific areas: climate, communication and voice. The climate portion of the survey revealed the majority of faculty, staff and students distrust the Central Administration. A Climate Assessment Committee was formed as a result of these findings. The committee will
be distributing a survey prior to spring break. Focus groups and open forums will be conducted to gather information. The survey will be distributed March.

The results of the communication portion of the survey indicated a severe lack of communication across campuses. A Communication Task Force comprised of Bridget Fletcher, Pat Sly, Jim Smith, Bob Fox, Carolyn Mulhall, Karla Scott, Vidur Sharma and Jeff Fowler began working together to develop a stronger top/down communication structure. The committee decided to focus on four specific areas: (1) work on improving the current process, (2) provide faculty, staff and students the opportunity to provide input, (3) a Feed Back Tool will be listed on Newslink. This will allow the members of the SLU community the opportunity to list comments and concerns. Clayton Berry will oversee the site. All comments/concerns will be kept confidential.

Mr. Fowler stressed that Interim President, Bill Kauffman, has been meeting with groups across campus and the country to improve communication. When asked why it took over six months for SAC to see the results of the survey, Mr. Fowler had no clear answer.

The meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm.