

General Staff Meeting
Chan Shun Hall, Room 108
April 16, 2008

No. 22

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Wanda Swenson.

CALLED TO ORDER

Shandelle Henson reminded us of how the father welcomed his son home in the story of the prodigal son. The father was there to welcome his son home no matter what he had done. Just as our heavenly Father is waiting to welcome us.

PRAYER AND WORDS
OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- Health Plans and Benefits. Open Enrollment April 15 to May 15, 2008.
- Wind Symphony Spring Concert—Saturday, April 19, 8:30 pm, Howard Center
- Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra—Sunday, April 20, 7 pm, Howard Center
- “The Magic Flute” Mozart Opera—Friday, April 25, 6–8 pm, Howard Center
- WAUS Thank-You Choral Concert—Saturday, April 26, 8 pm, Howard Center

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the absence of Oliver Davis and Marvin Budd, Wanda Swenson asked Barb Friesen to hand out ballots for staff to vote for new staff senators, Gyl Bateman and Kathleen Allen. Wanda Swenson was also on the ballot for a 2nd term appointment.

SENATE UPDATE

New employees from around campus were featured in a short slideshow.

EMPLOYEE DEV

Dick Scott, director of Facilities Management, gave us an update on the different construction projects underway:

CAMPUS ISSUES—

The milking parlor should be done by the end of June. It has been a challenge as the cows still need to be milked. This has been accomplished by building the new building over the old one. The new building will allow for 40 cows to be milked at a time. It will provide space for a larger storage tank, offices, restrooms, better viewing for the public and more.

CONSTRUCTION
UPDATES

The new entrance is the most noticeable of all the construction areas. The pillars are almost completed. The globe has arrived. The curbing along U.S. 31 will be done this Friday. The paving will not be completed until after graduation as the asphalt plant does not open up until May 12th. One hundred new trees will arrive soon and will be planted in pairs on either side of the road along with flowering trees. University Boulevard residents will be able to access the campus by card access. Grove Street will become a dead-end street.

Dining Services staff are enjoying their new offices on the main floor. A fireplace which can be viewed from either side has been constructed in the dining area. The Great Room and Banquet Rooms 1 and 2 will be completed and ready to use by graduation weekend.

Physical Therapy is getting a new lab. The north end of the Custodial warehouse has been emptied and walls are being constructed to build the new lab area. It should be completed by the end of May.

Grounds/Arboretum Department now has new offices, restrooms and a room for the Arboretum Council.

A new water main was installed on University Boulevard. This has been needed for several years. The work on the new replacement sidewalks has begun and should be completed shortly.

Tom Goodwin talked to us about the “Greening of Campus.” What can we do to make the earth better? Are we recycling plastic bottles, paper, conserving energy, etc? The students are very interested in what is happening in this area. Tom challenged us to find one area in our departments where we could save energy or something that could be recycled. More ideas will be presented at Earth Day Celebration on Tuesday, April 22 at 7 pm in the Seminary Chapel.

GREENING OF
CAMPUS

Thanks, Julia Hansen, for the great service you have given the Student Life office. You will be missed as you leave us and move to Camp Au Sable. Presentations were made by Frances Faehner, Steve Yeagley and Barb Freisen.

STAFF EMPLOYEE OF
THE MONTH

The meeting ended at 4:55 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Wanda Swenson, Moderator
Judith Nelson, Recording Secretary