



**Staff Council Meeting
July 21, 2010**

Present: John Lane, Elliot Ballard, Carmen Allen, Michelle Henninghaus, Debra Shouldice, Lois Green, Lila Murray, Sarah Castillo, Ross Heinsohn, Philip Lyons, and Heather Davis.

Guest Speakers: James Cane and Tomika Greer.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 2:12.
- II. The June minutes were approved by Lois Green and seconded by Debra Shouldice.
- III. Carmen gave the Financial Report; the only expenditure for the last month except for one Edge Award. There are a couple of issues with pending expenditures for ACF that need to be resolved.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. The Events Committee co-chair will be sending out log sheets and flyers for the uniform drive for the House of Tiny Treasures. John will be the primary cash handler. Staff Council members should collect and turn in money to John daily for deposit. Paulette has sixteen children to purchase for this year, and wants to thank Staff Council for our help. If anyone is making a donation by check; make it out to UH-D and please include the notation HTT in the memo section. Donations should be turned in to the primary cash handler, particularly any checks within twenty-four hours.
 - B. Dr. Woods will be stepping down as Provost; she will continue teaching with the College of Business. There will probably be a party celebrating her tenure in September, maybe one of the first two Fridays. We need more pictures for the book! We were planning to also get her a big bouquet of flowers, we might also
 - C. For the Fall Family Fun Festival we are planning to sell food, fajita tacos. The event will be from 12:00 to 5:00. We need volunteers, cooks and cleaning crew. The event was October 23rd.
- V. New Business
 - A. Jim Kane came to speak to Staff Council; he is with the Institute of Financial Literacy (IFL) and previously with the College of Business. Several years ago the university received a gift by a financial planner; that allowed them to create the Institute of

Financial Literacy. The institute's purpose is to promote the idea of financial literacy. That is to make decisions about how to handle your money effectively. Just to give you an idea; a statistic that was recently published shows that over a third of the population has FICA scores of over 650. At a score like that, you cannot borrow money at a reasonable interest rate.

There's a lot a things out there that are contributing to this problem. The institute has a website; that is currently being updated. To find the website, type IFL in the search engine on the university webpage. They have a blogger that writes articles on financial matters. The site also offers tips to stretch your dollar, an interactive budget planner, etc. He wants to put together a focus group of different people to make sure that their site has the information that the users really need and want. He also hopes to have brown bag seminars at lunch time.

- B. Tomika Greer, a previous employee of UH-D in Higher Ed, is currently working on her doctorate at Texas A & M. She is working on her dissertation on work-family conflict; her focus is on dependent care but she is also interested in the child-care aspect of work vs. family conflicts. She and John had run into each other a few months ago and John mentioned to her about Staff Council's plan to have a survey regarding the child care issue in the near future. She was thinking that maybe partnering with Staff Council to get a survey out to the UH-D community. Specifically she is interested in how people experience work-family conflict, how families facilitate roles and how do they decide in which is more important? Her survey has been drafted, and is currently being reviewed by the A&M institutional research board.

VI. Issues/Concerns

- A. President Flores will be attending the August 18th meeting and speaking about the budget.
- B. Can we modify the new speed bumps before they cause an accident? Several people have complained about the size/shape of the new speed bumps.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55.