South Carolina State University
Staff Senate Meeting
November 4, 2014
Belcher Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

**Executive Officers Present:** Kenita Pitts, Ronald York, Monica Johnson, and Anquanetta Darby.

**Executive Officers Absent:** Sean Jones

**Ex-Officio’s Absent:** Kay Snider, Doris Gathers-Dantzler, and Thomas Elzey

**Senators Present:** Beulah El-Amin, Candyce Brown, Brenda Daniely, Carl A’see, Pecolia Snow, Amanda Staley, Cynthia Geter, Demetrius Chatman, and Frances Diaz-Evans

**Senators Absent:** Cynthia Mitchell, Kendrick Lewis, Ashley Walker, Sandra Scott, Anthony Wright, Clarence Jones, Tracy Thomas, Joslyn DiPasalegna, Fran Simpson, Cammy Grate, and Sherri Williams.

I. **Call to Order**
Kenita Pitts called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

II. **Invocation**
Juanita H. Strait led the members present in prayer.

III. **Roll Call of Executive Members**
Roll call was done by Anquanetta Darby.

IV. **Roll Call of Senators**
Roll call was done by Anquanetta Darby.

V. **Adoption of Agenda**
Kenita Pitts made a motion to adopt the agenda; Monica Johnson so moved, seconded by Ron York.

VI. **Approval of Minutes**
Ron York made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Anquanetta Darby.
VII. President’s Report

- President Pitts reported that she was invited to attend the SCSU Board of Visitors meeting held on October 24, 2014. President Pitts was asked to give a brief introduction of herself and to give the BOV an overview of the SCSU Staff Senate goals and objectives. The meeting went well and the BOV was very receptive and offered any assistance that the Senate would need with any future endeavors.

- President Pitts reported that it was brought to her attention that in the past the SCSU Staff Senate was assigned an E&G account for materials and supplies. When she researched the information, she discovered that the account did not have any funds. After speaking with the VP for Fiscal Affairs and the Budget Director she was told that the Staff Senate account will not receive a budget now or in the near future due to budget constraints. The account was set up in 2007 and had never been used; therefore, the funds decreased year after year and were ultimately discontinued after the 2013 Budget Implementation. Therefore, the Staff Senate will have to operate solely from the existing account through the SCSU Foundation; any monies received from fundraising activities and dues will continue to be deposited into that account.

- President Pitts announced that there are currently thirty-two (32) paid staff senate members. Staff Senators were asked to pay their annual dues on or before December 1, 2014. For those Staff Senators that have not paid their annual dues, President Pitts will request an alternate from the Vice President of their respective area. She stated that is not fair for an area to go without representation on the Senate.

- Senators and Executive officers were asked to please notify Secretary Darby or herself if they will not be in attendance for monthly Staff Senate meetings. Senators and Executive Officers were also reminded to please review the Attendance Policy in the Bylaws.

- The staff of SCSU has been asked to participate in the upcoming Black History activities. Information will be forthcoming but if anyone has any ideas and/or suggestions, they were asked to give them to her and she would forward them to the committee.

- The position of treasurer is currently vacant and needs to be filled. President Pitts opened the floor for a volunteer or a nomination. Juanita H. Strait was nominated. The senate accepted the nomination and Juanita H. Strait was appointed by President Pitts.

- There was a brief discussion concerning Standing Committee vacancies and the need for them to be filled.

VIII. New Business

- The Executive Committee met and voted to participate in the Adopt-A-Child & Christmas Tree Lighting Program sponsored by Student Life and Leadership. The Staff Senate will provide $50 worth of gifts to the child that will be assigned to the Senate. The $50 will come from the Staff Senate Foundation account. All Staff Senate members are
asked to be in attendance at the adopt-a-child presentation that will be held in the MLK Auditorium at 6:00 pm on December 3, 2014.

- The staff senate has a vacancy on the Board of Visitors. The Executive Committee chose Dr. Lana E. Williams, principal of William J. Clark Middle School as a candidate to fill the seat that has been vacant since 2009. She stated that five Vitae’s were received and the Committee felt that Dr. Williams would be a great candidate. Dr. Williams’ Vitae was submitted to the BOV and now moves on to the SCSU Board of Trustees for review and approval. President Pitts also explained the duties and responsibilities of the candidate as it relates to the Staff Senate.

IX. Questions & Answers

- The floor was then open for questions. A question was raised about the rumors of a Voluntary Furlough to be implemented campus wide. Copies of the 2013-2014 Appropriation Act Proviso 117.75 and a SCOHR Q&A was disseminated. During an extensive discussion and review of the handouts, attendees were informed and encouraged to make the best decision that suited them. Attendees were informed that it is voluntary and you do have choices; a choice to participate or a choice to wait for the outcome of the General Assembly. However, if the General Assembly approves the seven-day mandatory furlough, those days will be taken from your paycheck at one time versus you having the choice of picking your days if you participate in the Voluntary Furlough. Whatever the choice is, it is yours to make.

- Raffle tickets were drawn for door prizes and the winners were: Alberta Gilmore, Ethel Bryant, Mitchell Chapman, Demetrius Chatman, and Sherry Mack-Michael (YMCA One-Day Pass, compliments of the Orangeburg County YMCA, Mrs. Wendy S. Davis, Membership Director) Donna Hanton, Beulah El-Amin, Melanie Briggman, and Pecolia Snow ($10 Subway Gift Card, compliments of Breeland Transport, LLC, Mr. Joerod Breeland, III, Owner).

X. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anquanetta Darby
Secretary