

COSA MINUTES

Secondly (for the June meeting annually), the Election Committee will send a letter to all currently seated COSA representatives as well as newly elected representatives, seeking nominations for the remaining officer positions. Newly elected COSA representatives and currently seated COSA representatives are eligible to serve in the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Public Relations Officer. The current president of COSA automatically serves as Immediate Past Chair (although without voting privileges if the person is not a continuing member of COSA). COSA members may nominate themselves for these offices, or they may nominate others. The Elections Committee will verify that those nominated are willing to serve if elected. Nominations from the floor will be accepted and added to the written ballot if the person/s nominated from the floor are willing to serve, if elected. With the Suspension of the Rules newly elected COSA representatives may vote for these offices at the June meeting.

On a Sharpe/Dees motion COSA approved changing Section III/B of the COSA By-Laws æElection Procedures for Officers æ, as follows:

The Officers of COSA shall be elected during the last two regularly scheduled meetings of each year in May and June using procedures detailed in the COSA Policies and Procedure Manual.

***At the May COSA meeting, the chair of the Elections Committee will present a slate of nominees for the position of chair/chair-elect. Nominations will be accepted from currently seated and newly elected COSA representatives. Only currently seated COSA representatives are eligible to vote for these two positions.**

***At the June COSA meeting, the chair of the Elections Committee will present a slate of nominees for the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Public Relations Officer. Nominations will be accepted from currently seated and newly elected COSA representatives. Both currently seated and newly elected COSA representatives are eligible to serve in these positions.**

***Should a vacancy occur during a term of office, the above election process will be followed starting with the next regularly scheduled meeting.**

Welfare: Chair, Debi Britt, reported that the committee's fundraising proposal was presented to Ray Devery and Sandra Fletcher of the VSU Foundation at a meeting held on March 26, 2001. Plans to coordinate the unveiling of the Retirement Walkway with the Retiree's Luncheon will be amended if the luncheon is re-scheduled for August instead of late May or early June this year. It is the intention of COSA to have a formal ceremony for the unveiling of the walkway before June 30, 2001.

Other Reports:

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Recycling Committee: No report.

Academic Scheduling & Procedures Committee: Pat Rozier presented the written Annual Report of this Faculty Senate Committee as prepared by Michele Garber, Chair.

Advisory Committee to Partners in Campus Excellence Project: Lisa Benton agreed to replace Holly Decker on this committee.

Graduation & Special Events Committee: Sammy Dees agreed to serve on this new sub-committee of the Faculty Senate.

Sexual Harassment Committee: Ann Farmer reported that she met once with this committee, and to the best of her knowledge, it has never met again.

Report from the Chair:

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At the spring meeting of the University System of Georgia Staff Councils Tommye Miller volunteered to draft a letter for the group recommending lowering the period of vesting in the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) from ten years to five years. Pat Rozier submitted this draft to the State Council's list serve, but she has not seen any response to the draft.

Old Business:

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A brief discussion was held concerning the need for ongoing fundraising activities on behalf of COSA. Many possible COSA activities, projects, and services are limited by the amount of discretionary funds available to COSA. One of the primary reasons for developing a close working relationship with the VSU Foundation is to increase fundraising opportunities for all COSA projects.

Inman Grimsley reported that Louise McBee and Bill Cummings introduced a fiscal bill to the Georgia Legislature this year that recommends lowering the time for vesting in the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia from ten years to five years. COSA agreed that this important legislation benefits all employees of Valdosta State University. Employees are urged to contact local legislative representatives, Tim Golden and Ron Borders, to support this recommendation. COSA reminds employees not to correspond with legislators on any type of University letterhead.

VSU employees responded enthusiastically to the discounted passes to Wild Adventures that was negotiated on their behalf by COSA. There are plans to bring a similar offer to employees again in the fall.

encouraged to contact the VSU Foundation for more information (333-5939). COSA representatives will be available to help with fundraising for the gift from the staff.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommye H. Miller, Secretary

The COSA meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Special Order of the Day: :