**Staff Assembly Meeting**(Approved minutes)

**April 5, 2016**

**Justin Boardroom**

**3:30 pm**

**Welcome and Remarks**

* **Rodney Baker, Chair-Elect** welcomed all and called the meeting to order
* March minutes approved. Wendy Bell made motion to approve and was seconded by Lori Stowe.
* Rodney introduced the first speaker, Dr. Jim Atwood, Religion Professor and Asst. Dean of Admissions.

**Guest: Dr. Jim Atwood**

* Dr. Atwood has been at TCU for 30+ years as a student, professor and administrator. He wants to stress that with all the changes at TCU, 1 thing remains the same: the people on campus and the way that we invite and welcome visitor to our University.
* Many changes over the years and most dramatically is the amount of applications that TCU receives for admission. In 2000, the Admissions office received about 5,000 applications. This year they received 20,000. Every application is personally looked at and assessed. Admissions is looking for 1,900 freshman plus transfer students in the Fall 2016 class.
* New facilities are making way for new growth but hospitality remains the same.
* TCU has the 2nd most selective university in Texas.
* 35% are admitted; 2,000 are on waitlist.
* Admissions has a Hospitality Staff which schedules about 30 ‘official tours’ and many other individual tours.
* The University is seeking to be more diversified in race and increase the male population.
* The University also needs more students seeking Education and Religion degrees.
* SAT scores are up 30 points in 1 year.
* Why all the changes? Athletic success has fueled the global awareness and the media publicity has sparked interest.
* Dean Ray Brown insists on accurate numbers. Out of 20,000 applicants, 6,972 have been admitted. External auditors verify accuracy.
* Community Scholars Program is a college-prep program that TCU supports.

Q: Out of the 20,000, why not choose more males.

 A: The well qualified males are admitted. Males tend not to apply in the numbers that females do.

Q: Is there a minimum ACT score to be admitted? (36 is the top score).

A: No, decision depends on many factors like high school classes, grades, outside influences, community participation, etc.

Q: Does a parent need to be listed on the application?

 A: No, but it is important for the parents to be involved in application process.

Q: Does a student HAVE to declare a major upon admission?

 A: No, they can declare themselves as Pre-Major. Although some degrees are so structured that the first semester needs to fulfill part of their degree. Example: Nursing.

**Guest 2: Elysa Menger-Annual Giving**

* Emails went out on April 4th. Even if you want deduction to remain the same, submit the form from the email. It is easier to track the participation.
* TCU has 81% participation rate. This is above and beyond the national average.
* Faculty & staff giving sets the example to the Alumni. F/S give at a much higher rate.
* If a faculty or staff employee is an alum as well, they will get credit as participating in both categories.
* Changes/deductions will go into effect on June 1, 2016.

**Old and New Business**

No UCAC report.

Lori Stowe gave a report on the Recycling Initiative at TCU. Ad hoc committee formed and has faculty, staff and students participating. The committee has been collaborating with other universities. 75% of universities have a sustainability committee. This committee would like to establish a program comprised of a Sustainability Officer with members from Dining Services, Physical Plant, faculty, staff and students.

Many of our recycled materials are contaminated and not recyclable.

**Committee Reports**

* College Resources- Kim Weber gave report. Survey is being sent for feedback on their programs. Looking for rankings of their resources and make sure they are not overlapping programs.
* Elections- Wendy Bell-Qualtrics went out and she is compiling the results. Voting ballots will be distributed very soon.
* Committee on Committees- Zoranna Jones- Committee will meet on May 9th to make selections to University committees.
* Community Service-Stephanie Key said that the Easter Egg hunt was a huge success. She distributed the Faculty/Staff baseball game event flyer. Baseball game tickets are 1st come, 1st served. 150 tickets available.
* Policy and Advocacy-Not present
* Professional Development-Katherine Schruba announced the spring event. Discovering Your Financial Future at TCU. 2 meetings: 1st at Physical Plant Monday April 18 at 3:15. Matt Milns will host this meeting.

The 2nd session will be April 19 during lunch at the Kelly Center. Box lunch provided. Watch the TCU announcements for sign up information. Space is limited.

* Marketing and Communications-Not present

**Announcements and Open Forum**

Meeting adjourned at 4:40. Motioned by Shawn Wagner and seconded by Everlyn Williams.