Professional Staff Association
Senate Meeting Notes
Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012
Student Union Cataldo Room

In attendance: Karen Wargo, Jami Dye, Kathleen Tuck, Zab Biason, Valerie Dresslar, Mary Naccarato, Eric Orton, Katelyn Smith, Sundi Musnicki, Chris Hyer, Peter Juhrs and Mark Messing.

Absent: Sierra Lewis

Call to order
Karen called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

Special guests Pablo Coblentz, assistant vice president of Human Resource Services, and Sarah Jones, director of benefits and compensation
Pablo and Sarah shared updates on two-year pilot dependent fee waiver program. Sara noted that 168 employees utilized the waiver in FY12 at a total cost of $266,000. Eligible dependents receive a 65 percent discount on tuition after paying a $25 registration fee. To receive the waiver, employees must work at Boise State for a minimum of five months. Most who have utilized the waiver so far have worked at Boise State for 5-10 years, and the majority are professional staff. Stacy Pearson will present an update to the State Board of Education in November. The Professional Staff Senate will work to gather comments from Professional Staff members before that meeting. Sarah noted that Boise State may look at increasing the benefit in the future. It also was noted that other universities that offer waivers have a variety of variables in play, including requiring students to have passing grades, only offering the waiver for eight semester, etc.

Review and approval of minutes from the July meeting
Mark moved and Eric seconded approval of the July meeting minutes.

Treasurer’s Report
Appropriated account — $398.47, with an outstanding credit of $134 for a charge for Bronco Primetime.
Local account — $2,278.33, without the new budget load of $2,000.

Old Business
Professional Staff Association brochures — Sundi is designing an update to last year’s brochure. The senate prefers a reusable brochure with a general events list but not dates. An insert will include contacts for officers and specific event information.

Robert Buhl has left the university and will no longer serve as chair of the Social subcommittee. Ryan Gerulf in the Alumni Association was suggested as a replacement.
Fall Luncheon — Mary reported that the committee had met and decided on the following announcement schedule: Sept. 14, Save the Date; Oct. 1, RSVPs open; Oct. 10, reminder email; Oct. 23, RSVPs due. Guests include Dr. Kustra, vice presidents, John
Kelly (photographer) and emeriti. The senate voted for the Italian lunch menu. Cost is $7 pre-paid or $9 at the door. The Senate will subsidize the difference on the $11.50 cost. The program will include committee updates and the Professional Staff of the Year award presentation. The theme is “The Many Hats We Wear” and attendees will be encouraged to wear creative hats and win a prize. An idea was to find a humorous speaker to address the theme.

Professional Staff of the Year Award — emails have been sent and an announcement was made in Update. Nominations are due Sept. 28. The award committee comprises Kathleen Tuck, Zab Biason, Katelyn Smith, Sundi Musnicki, Eric Orton and Jami Dye.

New Business
Group photo was taken for use in the brochure and on the website.

Announcements
Oct. 2 in the Campus Read Speaker, Sharon Matola, subject of “The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw.” Oct. 4 is the Distinguished Lecture Series speaker, cognitive scientist Steven Pinker.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 p.m.