In Attendance:
Dan Griggs, Bill English, Pat Pyke, Brian MacDonald, Kathleen Tuck, Corrine Henke, Karen Wargo, Marlene McVeigh

Absent:
Melissa Wintrow, Mike Reed, Alain Rodrigue, Bob Henry, Kristine Barney

I. Call to Order
   - Dan called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes
   - Bill made a motion to approve the June minutes, and Brian seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Treasurer's Report
   - Appropriated - $0
   - Local - $4,804.32
   - the 2011 fiscal year budget load has not yet happened for the Appropriated Acct.
   - There was a question about the deposit into the local account with the description 'ACE Deposit (Staff Week)', Mike will verify the purpose/reason for that at a later date.

IV. Old Business
   - Website Review/Update.
      Dan reminded senators to send their photos to Bill, for inclusion on the website. Brian asked about whether we will be required to migrate the PSA website to the new WordPress site the University is promoting. There was some discussion that we will not really have a choice, since we are a 'sub-site' of an existing domain, when the parent site migrates, so will our site.

      - Committees
         Kathleen, Corrine and Karen have been working on committee assignments, and updating descriptions and members for the handbook. There were approximately
30 responses to the request to serve on a committee email, and all available spots have been assigned.

The next step is to coordinate the Committee Orientation meeting. The Orientation should be mandatory for new committee members, and is highly recommended for returning committee representatives.

The orientation will be in the Library, room 201C, on 8/10/2010. (between 8am and noon)

- **Goals, Mission and our Constituents**

  In response to Dan’s request that we all talk face to face with Professional staff in our departments to find out what they are most concerned about, the following items were discussed;
  - Furloughs/layoffs - many staff just want to know more about the potential for furloughs and layoffs, given the unknowns surrounding this year’s budget.
  - Pay (both the PSSAP project, and the potential for pay raises) - staff are feeling like the communication lines have not remained open on these matters.
  - PSSAP follow-up - (from Jane Buser) With Dale's departure, the next phase (meeting with supervisors/managers to discuss initial slotting of positions) has been postponed until a new compensation manager is hired. However, the administration approved the structure last August and Joan Thies applies the structure (salary ranges) for the recruitment of professional staff, reorganizations etc.
  - The lack of pay raises is also a very big concern for Professional Staff (some senators recalled a service record of nearly 15 years with the University, and only 6-7 of those years where a pay raise was actually given, and even then, that it did not even come close to addressing basic cost of living increases in this state), more interaction with the legislature was discussed as a method to continue to ‘market’ state employees in general to our legislators. Last year’s luncheon with some legislators left PSA senators feeling like our legislators (some, not all) viewed state employees as ‘lazy and overpaid’, and the PSA senate would like to continue to address those general ideas from our legislators. It was suggested that we invite Boise State lobbyist Bruce Newcomb to a future senate meeting to hear his views on the legislatures direction.
  - Benefits / Health Care. The future of the existing insurance plan offered by the state was of interest to some Professional Staff. The following was submitted by Jane Buser after the meeting - “I have been chairing the Higher Education Insurance Consortium, which consists of the eight higher ed public institutions. We have been working together for the last few months and recently posted an RFQ for a feasibility study. We have two responses, which the consortium will be evaluating during the next few weeks. After selecting a vendor, the feasibility study will begin (data gathering etc.). The study and results will be not only for health, but also life and disability benefits.
Sarah Jones, our 'new' benefits manager, has had extensive experience working on projects such as this and will help guide us.”

- Employee + 1 (Fee Waiver). Dan did some investigating of what our peer institutions do in this area. He found that ..........................................<Dan, can you please provide some of the details here>...........................................

- Professional Development. Concerns were raised about current Professional Development policies being filtered through existing travel policies, which can be limiting and inflexible. The benefits of Prof. Development are well documented, and justify the evaluation of current Travel policies and how they promote (or restrict) professional development opportunities. A current example of the issue would be technical training for IT professionals, in some areas there is no money for travel/training, yet some employees may be required to achieve higher levels of certifications to maintain their positions.

- Some professional staff have expressed gratitude for the increased visibility of the PSA and the senate, in matters of importance (such as the budget situation, open meetings with Stacy Pearson, etc...).

V. New Business

Better Know the PSA - Ideas about getting out and making ourselves available for open impromptu discussions with Professional staff around campus. Kristine provided an overview of what a project like this might cost, and where we might position ourselves for the best outcome. Additional conversation ensued about available ‘walking paths’ where the PSA might position a table, and what ‘talking points/key issues’ we might encourage. More will follow on this.

Quad Sale - Brian needed to leave a little early, but said that he will e-mail details about the Sale to the senate at a later date.

Emeritus Nomination - A nomination packet for emeritus was circulated. The materials were mostly complete, but it was requested that a complete vita be included as part of packet. The nomination was approved pending the completion of the vita.

Corrine motioned that we look closely at the policy and our handbook to ensure that a complete vita/resume is cleared requested. The current wording in the policy is ‘Vita or resume for the candidate's time of service.’

VI. Announcements

- The next Professional Staff Senate meeting will be August, 11th at 10:30 a.m., in the Ah Fong Room.
VII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.