

Meeting Minutes December 16th, 2016

Present: John Brautigan, Eddie Carreon, Julie Myers, and Brian Hurd

1. FLSA debrief. Brian and Eddie discussed their conversation with Alex Teodosio in HR regarding the FLSA process. Although a court ruling blocked implementation, some lingering issues remained. The discussion centered on lessons learned about consistency of communication from senior leadership to staff regarding significant issues like this. We agreed that this issue was a test case for the advocacy role of Staff Council. The group felt it is important to have advocacy be a part of the agenda for the upcoming Staff Council retreat.
2. Staff Council retreat. Scheduled for Tuesday, January 10th, from 2:30pm to 5:00pm in the Murphy room. We will discuss changes to the Constitution, possible restructuring of committees, and the advocacy role of Staff Council.
3. Ed Peck visited and presented on some initiatives from the Mission and Identity Office. Companions in Mission will be launching in the spring. This is a mission formation opportunity for staff, which will include five on-campus meetings, a one-day reflection retreat, and a day of service. Ed mentioned that there is money for programming available from the Mission Endowment Fund, which now funds Immersion programs and the Ignatian Colleagues Program. Some of this money is available for additional programming with a mission focus. There might be opportunities for this committee to work with Ed's office on coordinating. Ed said there is no shortage of programs, what is needed is coordination. There was discussion about justice and inter-religious cultural dialogue, empowering people to bring mission to life, partnerships in planning and promoting, and Staff Council's role in coordinating, planning, and relating programs to staff in particular.

Eddie mentioned that we could consider a "Mission Tabletop" – presenting an issue/problem/decision, and exploring how we approach this with a mission lens. Eddie also spoke about mission alignment with our actions – hiring, decision-making etc. and how we live and work together corporately.

Julie spoke about other possibilities with promoting discussion on fair trade, our Coca-Cola and Nike contracts, what does these mean to us?

Ed thought Ignatian Heritage Week could be a time to talk about many of these issues: fair trade, sustainability, accountability etc.

We finished with discussion about how we understand mission in our own lives, and in our work. How do we make it come alive, and how does my work, my department align with the mission.

We thanked Ed for coming, and expressed desire to find ways to work collaboratively with his office.