

THE FORUM STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES – May 11, 2005

Present: Tom Baraniak, Peggy Pfister, Julia Burmesch, Mike Hendel, Rod Oto, Doug Foxgrover, Margit Johnson, Kathy Tezla

Absent: Laurel Bradley, Tim Vick

Following is a summary of the items discussed at the meeting:

1. Steering Committee Membership – Three members have left the committee over the year: Mitchell Madson, Paul Gaines and Tim Vick. We would like to keep our membership around 10, so Peggy will send an e-mail to exempt staff. If we get more than two volunteers, we will look at what areas of the College aren't represented on our committee to make our selection.

2. Upcoming Events –
 - Welcome for New Staff – May 24, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Alumni Guest House Library. Mike will publicize, SAC will arrange food and beverages
 - Spring Office Crawl – We will not be having an office crawl this spring, but an idea for a campus scavenger hunt sometime next year was suggested. Our initial thoughts were that staff could be given a list of people or places to find around campus (particularly people or departments who have moved) and would need to bring back something from each area to prove they found it.
 - Wine & Cheese Event – This event was scheduled for Thursday, June 2 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the AGH Library. **PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO ROB'S TRAVEL SCHEDULE, THIS DATE WILL MOST LIKELY BE CHANGED.** In addition to/instead of the two topic ideas we had already suggested, Rob may want to talk about the faculty workload issue currently under discussion. Peggy will suggest this to Elise. The lay-out for the event will be: social time for the first 20 minutes or so, Rob's talk for 20 minutes, Q&A 20 minutes, social time the remainder.

3. Joint SAC/Forum Retreat –

HR and SAC are interested in having an annual joint retreat with the Forum. They proposed having this retreat in late August and continuing to have the regular Forum retreat in December; however, for this first year, the joint retreat would be in December so that there would be more time to plan it. We discussed possible topics and retreat schedules and will propose the following:

 - 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. – Separate meetings for SAC and the Forum. Since we won't have our normal retreat in December, this would allow the Forum to have some time for a business meeting.

- 10:00 – 11:00 – Keynote speaker. We felt that we would prefer that this not be a training session. HR offers many opportunities throughout the year for training. We would be more interested in something to do with work/life issues such as “work and life in the modern world” (how does work in America compare to other countries, or how has “work” changed) or “why is life more complicated now than it was 20 years ago? Or is it?”
- 11:00-Noon – Breakout sessions. Different groups could have different questions to discuss based on issues/ideas from the keynote speaker.
- Noon – Lunch

Doug Foxgrover and Mike Hendel volunteered to work with HR and SAC in planning the retreat. Peggy will contact SAC and HR.

4. College Committee Task Force – Kathy Tezla and Margit Johnson will represent the Forum and Robbie Groth and Linda Irrthum will represent SAC on this committee. The committee will meet over the summer and make recommendations to Fred Rogers by fall. Peggy will ask Fred to call a kick-off meeting. Margit will organize the group following the kick-off.

Next meeting date: August at The Cow (stayed tuned)