TO: Staff Senate

FROM: Pauline Palko

DATE: March, 2016

SUBJECT: Minutes of the February 10, 2016 Meeting

In attendance: Ms. Barrett Notarianni, Ms. Klien, Ms. Mecadon, Ms. Palko, Ms. Tucker, Ms. Tokash, Mr. Barrett, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Hallock, Mr. Roginski, Mr. Sakowski, Ms. Shimsky, Ms. Bevacqua, Ms. Butler, Ms. Cook, Ms. Densevich Sheils, Ms. Driscoll-McNulty, Ms. Hollingshead, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Krzan, Ms. Kovalcin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Wetherell.

Ms. Tetreault, Liaison

Not in attendance: Ms. Schofield, Ms. Cali, Ms. Barnoski opening prayer.

Attendance was checked, quorum met for voting purposes.

Review of November meeting minutes:

Minutes approved with no changes.

Approval of Agenda:

Agenda approved with no changes.

Special Guest Speaker: Father Kevin Quinn, University President

Father offered some remarks relative to recent events on campus and addressed some concerns he's been hearing from staff.

For the last several months Father has been heavily invested in the Faculty contract negotiations, and strategic planning, and therefore may have seemed distant, but hasn't forgotten about the staff.

The University of Scranton Staff is very important to the success of the University.

The Board of Trustees approved the Strategic Plan: staff is critical to the successful implementation of the plan.

Father has been made aware of staff budgeting concerns. Father ensured the

Father stated that specific reasons for cuts could not be discussed because of privacy, but shared that not all cuts were for budgetary reasons. Generally the University does not cut positions. Although we struggle, we manage to balance the budget. Only when left with no other option, would the University eliminate a position with an incumbent in it. It's a rare circumstance when it happens here, but happens often at other institutions. The University is concerned about how we treat anyone that is asked to leave; people terminated are given notice when possible. Father also confirmed that The Staff Window Retirement Plan did help with the budget.

A Senator asked if Father envisioned a better way to communicate with the University as a whole stating that information recently shared with faculty regarding the contract would have been helpful to everyone's understanding of how they fit or don't fit into this, and calms fears.

In response, Father said Cabinet thought long and hard about whom to communicate information and was conscious that half of the campus wasn't getting the information and was concerned about that. In the end, it was decided that since it was the faculty contract, the communication should go only to faculty, but Father also confirmed that he is aware that decisions made regarding the faculty do effect staff. Father agreed that the entirew 19.23 0 Td dl]TJ -190 Tc 03ushould raw 19.23 0 T(o)10 (f)-8 (w)16 ((at)2 (')6 (s)4 ()10 (h(p)10 p) ece smto dl]TJ -19(t)12 e(n r)7 ((p)10 (r)7 t)]TJ 0 Tc 0 Tw7

Act 153 Background Checks

Only those with direct control of minors

Finance—Nothing to report

Election and Membership—Save the date cards for the meet and greet have gone out. Call for nominations will go out March 1. Committee is not yet sure how many positions will be available for each constituency until meeting with HR.

Communications—Tentative dates for the Spring Communication Symposium are March 14 and 17. Three academic deans may be invited. Suggestion was made to include Dean Kratz of the Library as there are many new and exciting things going on in the Library.

Social Events & Community—Nothing new to report

Recognition and Excellence—Kim Hurst from Payroll is the Spirit Award winner for February. Planning continues for the Staff Senate Awards Luncheon in May.

Staff Development—Happy to say, we've begun planning the staff Barbecue for May 5, thanks to generous support from the Jesuit Center.

By-laws Committee: The committee met again to reviewing the section of the Staff Handbook, Disciplinary & Corrective Action and to compare to si10 (r)7Spr(Td (9g61(a)7 (ev (he L