McMurry University Staff Council
May 4, 2006
Meeting Minutes

The Staff Council for McMurry University met on Thursday, May 4, 2006, in the Cooke building classroom 112. Members present were: Jeanie Bone, Freddie Famble, Carolyn Calvert, David Williams, Debbie Ford, and Terry Nixon. Denis Gartner, Brenda Breeden and Vanessa Roberts did not attend. Also in attendance at this meeting was Rachel Atkins, McMurry Financial Aid Director.

Chair Famble called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting was to have Rachel Atkins explain the new proposed faculty/staff scholarship changes. She reported:

- Previously McMurry paid 100% of tuition and employees paid fees.
- Then changed to block tuition with fees included so scholarship changed to 90% and employee paid 10% - which was about the same as employee paying the fees before.
- Now, proposed change is to have all employees file FAFSA and those who receive Pell Grant, Texas Grant, scholarships, etc. would have to apply all of that money to tuition and McMurry would cover the rest. These funds would not be able to cover books, living expenses, etc., except for living in Goldstar or Presidents residence halls or the student apartments. The reasons are to keep more money in McMurry from these funds and because other universities do the same.
- This is determined by the Internal Budget Committee.

After discussion it was determined that these questions be asked of the IBC:

1. Can other grants/scholarships apply to the tuition, leaving the faculty/staff scholarship at 100%, and allow those who receive Pell to keep it?
2. Would it be more fair for everyone to go back to 90% tuition paid by McMurry and 10% paid by employee?
3. What does the faculty/staff scholarship actually cost the school?

Chair Famble asked the Council to think on a third possible solution.

It was determined that we wait on Rachel to provide the numbers on actual Pell and scholarship dollars and the number of employees who are affected by this issue. It was suggested that the Council then take these numbers and write a proposal to present to Dr. Russell for the IBC committee meeting in June.

Other Business:
In regards to short-term disability insurance, a request needs drafted to question the need for the insurance as relayed in the campus-wide insurance meeting this morning. The April 2000 campus-wide e-mail from Teresa Esman stating “McMurry will pay short-term disability in the form of weekly salary and
the need for short-term disability has been eliminated” should be attached. The question needs asked “Does McMurry currently not pay anything until the employee qualifies for long-term disability?”

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Chair Freddie Famble