September 30, 2010
Staff Assembly Update

Just a few months ago we were seeking approval from the Board of Visitors to create this staff organization, and though only a short time has passed we have been very busy. Since June we have:

- Recruited staff members to serve and elected 20 representatives. The process was open for all 1183 operational, classified and hourly staff members to participate.
- Held our first meeting in August and elected officers.
    - Deloris Thomas, President
    - Tom Trovato, Vice President
    - Destiny Elliott, Secretary
    - Members volunteered to serve as chairs of the six standing committees that includes:
        - Policies and Issues is working closely with the Provost Halleran to review policies on classification, leave sharing and sick and disability leave.
        - Communications is responsible for managing our web page. The page http://www.wm.edu/sites/staffassembly/ is used to disseminate information about the elections, by-laws and meeting notices, etc. We also have a listserv that includes email addresses for all staff. Meeting notices, announcements, etc. are communicated via this list.
        - Elections and Nominations, Staff and Community Relations and By-Laws and Constitution Committees will begin work later this year.
        - Activities and Events Committee is planning our first college-wide Assembly meeting to be held on December 8 in the Commonwealth Auditorium. Vice President Martin and Provost Halleran along with presidents of the PPFA and the Faculty Assembly have been invited.
- Staff Assembly members worked closely with Human Resources and Vice President Martin on the Climate Survey that was conducted in August. We asked staff for input on questions and format for the 2010 survey and encouraged staff to take the survey.
- The Assembly has recommended staff to serve on other college committees to include Parking Services and Diversity and is represented at the Breakfast with Provost Sessions held twice each semester.

The formation of the Assembly has not only brought the staff community together; from VIMS, Facilities, Grounds and various other departments, but it has also given staff an opportunity to take on ownership and leadership roles in the William and Mary Community. Our primary goals for this year are to increase the level of participation by staff in campus activities and improve communication.

Deloris Thomas, President

Staff Assembly