**University of Louisville — Staff Senate**

**2011 Retreat: Report of Feedback Survey**

Retreat Attendance: 49  (51 including 2 officers)
Survey Responses: 45
Response Rate: 92%

**Question 1**

Please rate the Retreat on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Rating Average</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall agenda</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development Session (EAP)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakout Session</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest Speaker (Mardis)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.16</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch at Ville Grille</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.58</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Tour of Cardinal Towne</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event location &amp; venue</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking opportunities throughout Retreat</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

answered question 45
skipped question 0

![Bar chart showing ratings for different aspects of the retreat](chart.png)
### Question 2

**Which Breakout Session did you attend?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Senators session</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair/Vice Chair session</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UofL Communications focus group</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Senate- topics of interest/initiatives</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get Healthy Now focus group</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **answered question**: 45
- **skipped question**: 0
### Question 3

**Did the Retreat meet your expectations?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exceeded expectations</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Met expectations</td>
<td>51.1%</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not meet expectations</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not have expectations</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*answered question 45  skipped question 0*
Question 4

What did you enjoy or value the most about the Retreat? (38 responses)

Summary count of most frequently mentioned items *:

- Ville Grill/Lunch: 12
- Brannon/EAP Presentation: 9
- Breakout Sessions: 8
- Meeting/Networking w/ Senators: 7
- Mardis/Student Affairs Presentation: 5
- Cardinal Towne Tour: 4

* Many responses listed multiple items, therefore a total of these counts will not match total number of responses.

- Ability to spend time focused on Staff Senate
- break out session
- break out session
- breakout session.
- Break out session
- Engagement with other senators and new information about UofL derived from tour and Mardis presentation
- Everything was about equal in value, except for the lunch and tour .. they were excellent.
- First presentation from Rodney.
- I enjoyed being able to spend a day with my fellow senators and becoming a little more familiar with them. The time spent chatting at lunch and on breaks were the times that I got to know them the best.
- I enjoyed meeting other Senators and learning more about our University. I also enjoyed having opportunities to move about rather than sit in one chair all day--as in 2010. This was much more enjoyable.
- I enjoyed my breakout session.
- I enjoyed the lunch, and the presentations from Rodney Brannon (EAP and Michael Mardin (Student Affairs).
- I enjoyed the meeting portion--especially since it was my first meeting. I also appreciated the time Karen took to orient the new senators; that session was very informative.
- I enjoyed the presentations by Dean Mardis and Rodney Brannon. THe lunch at the Ville Grille was excellent and the price on the ticket was too. Glad to see that we are conscious of the cost.
- I enjoyed the Professional Development session -- he is a good speaker
- I enjoyed the speaker from EAP
Question 4 (continued)

What did you enjoy or value the **most** about the Retreat? (36 responses)

- I thought the retreat was very well planned. I especially liked everything staying punctual. Very good job.
- It was nice to see the positive changes for the undergraduate students and to see how UofL is trying to be competitive.
- Karen Porter did a great job putting everything together. She is a great person to have on our senate.
- Learning more about people who are on the senate and getting to know them better.
- Long time for the Lunch hour
- Lunch
- Lunch and tour of new student apartments. Getting together with fellow senators. EAP speaker
- Lunch at Ville Grille and walking tour of Cardinal Towne
- Meeting and getting to know other staff members outside our department. The EAP presentation was very valuable and a little known employee benefit.
- Meeting new people and the opportunity to work on a committee that has interest of the University at heart.
- Networking with other senators
- The breakout sessions and the update from student affairs
- The breakout sessions were meaningful.
- The EAP exercise
- The guest speaker and lunch.
- The opportunity to meet other senators. It is really important to have time to talk and learn about each other, so that we can work together to be more effective.
- The topics of discussion were very informative
- The Ville Grill was a perfect choice for lunch. So many options to choose from, that everyone was happy.
- The Ville Grille
- The Ville Grille! (although I really wish I would have had some jalapeno nacho chips j/k Karen) I wish though we could have sat closer to other senators to be able to talk more within our group, but it was still a really nice experience for the money.
- Theme - focus on students
- Wonderful lunch venue. I applaud all of the efforts to make this a successful retreat - well done!!
Question 5

What did you enjoy or value the least about the Retreat? (35 responses)

Summary count of most frequently mentioned items *:

- Venue/Seating/Temperature, etc.: 13
- Nothing or N/A: 9
- Brannon/EAP Presentation: 4
- Breakout Sessions: 2
- Mardis/Student Affairs Presentation: 2
- Chair/Leadership: 2

* Many responses listed multiple items, therefore a total of these counts will not match total number of responses.

- David James wasn't there,
- EAP
- EAP (only because I know about the program so it may have seemed too long to me)
- Having to be inside.
- I did not like having the retreat at the Chao Theater. The seats are not comfortable enough to sit in for the long periods we had to sit.
- I didn't care much for the EAP session.
- I had no least favorite thing.
- I know it's hard to find an acceptable locale; it was a bummer we couldn't have drinks in the auditorium. It was really nice being able to go to the Ville Grille--have never been there before.
- I really can't say wouldn't say anything.
- It was all well done.
- It wasn' that I didn't enjoy--I did not do the walking tour
- Kind of cramped and difficult to see everyone if you were towards the front. Would have liked a circle atmosphere or something like that. The EAP experiment would have been more fun in a larger area.
- Location and inability to interact with all the senators.
- Michael Mardis' presentation was rushed, although he readily admitted that. I would have appreciated more time. As for the presentation by Mr. Brannon - while some of the material was certainly food for thought, I felt a bit like we were just being read quotes at times. I was hopeful from the start of the activity - but soon felt less engaged.
- My breakout session didn't seem to be all that helpful to me as a senator (Communications breakout). I would have preferred having sessions that would help me to better develop myself as a senator and challenge the way I think about the way I represent my constituents, rather than just offering suggestions to assist another office, which is what the Communications breakout ending up being.
### Question 5 (continued)

**What did you enjoy or value the least about the Retreat? (36 responses)**

- n/a
- N/A
- No Complaints
- No eating or drinking in Chao, hard to go that long without doing either. Did not like having to sit all cramped together when there were additional seats available.
- nothing really-- I thought it was all good.
- room was too cold in morning and too hot in afternoon
- same answer as #4 (Everything was about equal in value, except for the lunch and tour .. they were excellent.)
- Same venue as normal monthly meetings.
- Seemed stressed for time during Dr. Mardis' presentation.
- That the chair did not attend, weak subs, weak leadership. Leaders don't mumble and appear to say "OH WELL" all the time......and not look at the crowd when speaking, so poor. Here we go back to where we were......Boring with no Action. It is NOT good enough to keep the status quo. Brent did a magnificent job, this dude has a lot to live up to, but I can tell he doesn't care. He knew he had to be at the Judy Green hearings, EASY to reschedule the retreat, but you all didn't because it just wasn't important enough to the leadership. WEAK. very disappointed.
- The agenda. I believe the agenda should include training components, as well as networking opportunities. We should review previous years and address things that worked well and should be continued and things that worked not-so-well that should be eliminated or revised. The presentations were useful, but perhaps not appropriate at the retreat. This is not a critique, just thoughts and suggestions.
- The breakout session had a few negative comments.
- The fact that it was at Chao. Not that its a bad venue, its just that it was like any other work day. I actually went back to my office for a while after lunch whereas I wouldn't have if we were off campus.
- The location...It didn't seem like much of a retreat because we met in the same room that we always meet. I would like to see more opportunity for break-out time to meet everyone.
- The time between lunch and the meeting. It would be nice to just get the retreat done so if we needed to work on things in the office we could.
- The venue
- The venue is less than ideal. auditorium seating does not foster a networking or a communicative atmosphere. If felt one directional and made the day seem like an all day meeting. This is a reason I also rated Newtworking low.
- the walking lunch
- there were none
- where it was held
**University of Louisville — Staff Senate**  
**2011 Retreat: Report of Feedback Survey**

**Question 6**

Please add any further comments or suggestions about this Retreat or ideas for future events (speakers you want to hear, topics you want to discuss, etc).  (26 responses)

- For the sake of the new Senators everyone should have stoodup and stated their name, school and longevity. A basic introduction.
- Future retreats may work well at ShelbyHurst (or some other location) just for a change of environment. Although it worked great for this one in light of our visit to The Ville Grille and Cardinal Towne. Thank you to all who planned this retreat for all your hard work. Sincerely appreciate the opportunity to participate and enjoyed the day's events. Future speakers/suggestions: Invite a rep from UK's staff senate (if you haven't already); invite individual vendors that offer UofL employees discounts (maybe some of the newer vendors, i.e., the Optical shop mgr at Kentucky Lions Eye; Possibly incorporate tour/highlights of HSC campus - consider holding retreat at the HSC in the CTR conference center at Hancock and Muhammad Ali. Again, thanks!
- Good job, could tell a lot of hard work went into the event.
- Great job overall!
- Have more meetings at the Down Town Campus
- Have retreat off campus, more opportunity for net working and getting to know other senators better
- I appreciate the Belknap location for the retreat. I wish David James had been there; but I know his Council obligations are a challenge.
- I think it would be beneficial to have a review of Robert's Rules and an overview of how meetings are supposed to be run at the retreat. Even for long-time senators, it would be a good opportunity for a refresher each year.
- I think it would have been helpful to do an intro in the morning of everyone and their names, work area, and length of service on the senate.
- I would have liked an ice breaker "get to know people" session
- I would like more info on the role of the senate, committees, and the expectations of a senator as well as the group as a whole.
- I would like the people of each committee to give a brief statement about their committee, so the new senators has an idea of what each committee does.
- If I think of something interesting I will let you know. Thank you for a great retreat.
- In order to make the this a real retreat let's move it to the new arena (Yum Center) or Papa John's Stadium. Let's make it a real retreat.
- It would be nice to limit the time Mr. Connally speaks. He tends to dominate the Senate meeting. We may need to put the SGA report and the Faculty Senate report on in advance of the VPHR.
- lets go off campus sometimes, rick pitino as a speaker would be great !!
- More professional development. Since UofL does not show they care about staff development it would be nice to have more.
Question 6 (continued)

Please add any further comments or suggestions about this Retreat or ideas for future events (speakers you want to hear, topics you want to discuss, etc). (26 responses)

- Motivational speakers, we have several right on campus. Try to discuss leadership as that is what we are supposed to do, lead our constituents but...tap in to the talent we have. The President, not the Provost should speak at EACH retreat, take questions. We are the voice of the staff, he should be at our disposal ONCE a year. Give me a break.

- Overall, I know Karen and Diane were crunched for time and were not initially expected to do this and with that said....they did a wonderful job.

- Really think it was well planned and coordinated, especially for having to move so many people from place to place around campus. Excellent job and keeping things on track and on time. Thank you all who planned and helped!!

- SO glad we didn't have candy thrown at us like last year. Thank you! I think it would be nice to have a panel of long-time senators share their experiences with the group and answer questions.

- Something I think a lot of staff would be interested in is career development at the university for the underemployed.

- Suggest a location that is more keeping with a "retreat" and not just a longer meeting in an auditorium setting.

- There could have been more networking opportunities. One thing I remember from last year that was fun was the icebreaker in the beginning where you had to find senators that had done certain things. There really wasn't much of that this year.

- This day was very well organized and informative. The new Senator break-out session is an excellent idea. I would like to brainstorm with the others about creative ways to engage your constituents. I send out emails requesting to be notified about issues of importance, every so often, but usually don't get any responses from my constituents.

- This was a lot of fun and it was really nice to see the new dorms and I hadn't been able to get to the Ville Grille yet. I was torn on the breakout groups on which one I wanted to go to, would have liked to hear more on what the other groups discussed. Overall though very good job all! Dhiane, great job leading!