1. The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Joe Boehm

2. The October minutes were unanimously approved; James Tharp made a motion and Kathy Inman seconded.

3. Old Business/New Business
   - Chancellor Cheryl Schrader spoke to the staff council about the S&T campus’ response to the recent turmoil at the Columbia campus with President Tim Wolfe and Chancellor Bowen Loftin stepping down. She said the issues were not limited to the Columbia campus and she was committed to our campus providing a healthy environment for all students to be able to succeed. She mentioned some actions that had been taken previously, including the creation of the position of vice chancellor human resources, equity and inclusion, and also the campus climate survey of 2012. Currently, the campus is revising its recruitment and hiring processes.
   She asked that the staff council consider its policies to ensure that they are including all viewpoints on campus and that staff council represents all staff adequately.
   Suggestions were made to the Chancellor to consider implementing “safe places” for students to be able to share and also a “buddy program” to pair new international students with someone already on campus.
   - Andy Careaga, director of marketing and communications, gave a presentation on the new branding initiative that is being rolled out to the campus. The tagline is “Miners Dig Deeper.” Part of the strategic plan initiatives involve raising visibility of the campus among its audiences. In January, there will be more information provided, and a website refresh will happen in Spring 2016. Andy agreed to make available the PowerPoint presentation to staff council members.
   - Joe Boehm thanked everyone who helped with the success of two recent events – the Fall Staff Appreciation Day and the Health Fair. He thanked Human Resources for the donation of hot chocolate and cider from Chartwell’s for the Fall Appreciation, as well as the efforts of Becky Callen’s committee to collect 20 door prizes. He noted that attendance was much better than last year. T-shirt sales amounted to close to $600.
• Joe announced the resignation of Janice Ridolfi from the council due to new job responsibilities. The election committee will find a replacement from the past election ballots.

• Dedie Wilson volunteered to be the new Faculty Senate personnel committee representative, replacing Melissa Chambers, who is no longer on staff council.

• The council will again sponsor the GRACE for Christmas food and toy drive with collection boxes in all of the buildings.

• Joe will meet with Becky, and they will provide more information about the Chancellor’s Holiday Canned Food Drive, which happens the first week of December.

4. Reports

• Joe reported that he will attend the Intercampus staff Council meeting the following week. If there are any topics members want to bring up, they should contact him or Sara Lewis. He also announced that Betsy Rodriguez had stepped down as vice president of UM system HR.

• Sara reported that she had made a presentation to the Innovation Committee about picnic tables and a mural for the ERL building. The mural was approved, but the picnic tables were denied due to funding. A suggestion made from council members was to work with some design teams or senior design projects about creating our own outdoor furniture. There are still some other hoops to jump through concerning the mural as well.

5. The next meeting is Dec. 10, 2015, at 9 a.m. in the Silver and Gold Room.

6. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.