

October 3, 2012

UGA Staff Council Meeting

Roll call; quorum was present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

President's report:

Attended the Foundation meeting last week.

Endowment is up to \$580 Million.

A capital campaign is in the works to reach 1 Billion.

Staff raises are still an important issue, administrators are looking for non-state money to help with the raises.

Board of Regents web site – open for nominations for the next UGA President.

The search firm normally expects a major university president to serve for about 5 years. The ranking/reputation of UGA is increasing. Freshmen entrance exam scores are up to a new record average, faculty grants are increasing, the new engineering and medical schools should help bring in more grants. The number of new Fullbright scholarships is up to the highest number in history.

UGA UC passed a motion to request UGA to offer and fund domestic partnerships funds to purchase health insurance. Details are not available at this time.

Old Business

Committees will be assigned today. Please check the list and adjust names if necessary.

Legion Pool; If any on Staff Council would like to discuss, please advise.

Motion proposed and seconded for Staff Council to support renovation/restoration of historic Legion Pool. Previous discussions indicate that future Residence Halls and green space would utilize this area. A public hearing has been requested by the Board of Regents; and President Adams feels that this area could be utilized so that more students could use this area. Motion to table passed.

Speaker; Kevin Kirsche, F&A, Office of Sustainability (OS).

<http://sustainability.uga.edu/> Mr. Kirsche spoke about the use of water, cisterns, and other natural resources. UGA spends about \$16 million per year on electricity, uses 300 million gallons of water per year. There are 72 solar panels on Jackson Street. 6 Leed certified buildings on campus. The Mission statement of Office of Sustainability and its Purposes was presented (see website for details).

OS works with academic departments to include sustainability as a certificate option to accompany their programs.

NSF FY 2012 spends \$998 M for science, engineering and education for sustainability.

Master gardeners and UGA students are working together to grow food through UGArdens. Donated over 700 pounds of food in the first year. Recently has donated over 2,000 pounds last month.

If you have ideas for projects, please contact OS. Student intern positions are available to help with projects.

Scholarships are available for students to spend on study abroad on sustainability.

Project using goats to consume invasive plants is still in progress. Faculty and staff are needed to sponsor students for projects. Project deadline for concepts is this Friday.

UGA currently recycles about 34% to 40% of waste. Goal is to improve % recycled and reduce amount going to the landfill.

OS would like to increase the number of fountains sustained by recycled water.

UGA office program – look at JL jdunlop@uga.edu or sustain@uga.edu

On the first Thursday of each month, there is a sustainability coffee hour.

New Business

Kat Farlowe is anticipating resigning her position as a coordinator. If you would like to step up and serve, please contact Jerry.

Higher admin is looking at ways that Staff can participate in service opportunities; probably would be as a group.

Next meeting be Nov 7th, speaker will be Janyce Dawkins, EOC Director. HR will also have a representative to discuss new options for insurance.

Adjournment motion passed.