



The University of Georgia

Staff Council

Making a great place to work even better!

August, 2015
Miller Learning Center Room 213
2:30PM

The Meeting was called to order by Staff Council Chair, Michael Lewis.

Roll Call

Members in attendance: Devin Arnold, Deborah Baker, Jason Bedgood, Teri Berryman, Ricky Boggs, Kaelin Broaddus, Mandy Brogdon, Kelly Cona, Anjali Dougherty, Melinda Eades, Stefani Hilley (via sub), Pattie Holly, Holly Ivy, Stuart Ivy, Jeremy Jenkins (via sub), Marcus Jennings, Christine Jepsen, Laura Kelley, Brenda Keen, Kristen Lawrence, Michael Lewis, Marie Mize, Mary Moore, Maureen O'Brien (via sub), Laura Richard, Sherri Stephens, Kyla Sterling, Carly Surratt, Kristi Wall (via sub), Tokesha Warner, Shialoh Wilson, George Veeder

Members absent: Debi Chandler, Victoria Cooper, Cathy Cuppett, Greg Eidson, Elmer Gray, Michele Griffin, Melody Herrington, Mark Robinson

A quorum was present.

Minutes: Minutes from July were approved without comment other than Michael thanked Marie Mize for running the July meeting in his absence

Staff Council Committee Reports

Needs and Concerns: In Elmer Gray's absence, Michael shared that Elmer had volunteered to chair this committee if no one else volunteers.

Communications: Debi Chandler was absent. No report.

Health and Safety: Devin Arnold had nothing to report.

Benefits and Classification: Kristi Wall was absent, her substitute had no information. No report.

Ad Hoc TAP: Michael shared that the chair of the committee has left the employ of UGA. Michael asked if any other committee members were present, and Melinda Eades, responded that she was. Michael asked if the committee had done anything. Melinda said "no." He asked if they had formalized a plan for continuing on without the chair. Melinda said "no." Michael asked if they wanted to continue on as an ad hoc committee. Melinda asked "by myself?" Marie Mize then interjected that she, too, was a committee member. She also shared that the USG Staff

Council is addressing this issue this year. It was agreed that the committee would dissolve and let the issue be addressed at the USG level.

University Council Committee Reports

Executive: Michael Lewis shared that the committee had not met since the last Staff Council meeting. He mentioned that there was an election that he shared in his Chair's report the week before. Dave Shipley agreed to chair the committee again so that the chair elect could gain more experience.

Facilities: Mary Moore shared that the committee did not meet. She had nothing to report.

Student Affairs: Michael shared that we no longer have a representative on this committee.

Human Resources: Brenda Keen shared that the committee has not met and she has yet to hear from Juan Jarrett, Associate VP of Human Resources, as to a meeting time that is convenient for him. She will follow up with him again.

Strategic Planning: Michael shared that this committee does not meet over the summer.

Libraries: Laura Rhicard had nothing to report.

Chair's report

Michael shared that neither the University Council, its executive committee, the UGA Foundation's Board of Trustees, nor the UGA Alumni Association's Board of Directors have met since his last report.

He attended a reception at President Morehead's house to honor Tom Jackson, who is going to the Board of Regents.

Old Business:

Election of Recording Secretary: Candidates were Kaelin Broaddus (SVPAA&P SRG) and Kyla Sterling, (Terry College of Business). No one else volunteered or was nominated from the floor. There were no questions asked of the candidates. Kaelin Broaddus was elected.

New Business:

Election of University Council representatives: 3 open seats for University Council members, 1 open seat on the Strategic Planning Committee, and 2 open seats on the Student Affairs Committee.

Michael shared that historically, Staff Council has had the committee members also serve as the University Council members. He said that the University Council Registrar/Secretary advised him that we should have council members who were not also serving on a committee. That would give Staff Council increased representation on the University Council, and the representatives less work to do. Michael said that before the Committee members were elected, they would be asked if they wanted to also serve as University Council members. If they didn't, then members must also be elected.

Brenda Keen commented that The Strategic Planning Committee position is for a term of one year, rather than the standard three years because it is to replace a member who is retiring. Michael added that the Student Affairs positions were also just for one year.

Christine Jepsen wondered if the University Council should ask the elected committee members whether or not they would like to also serve as University Council members. Michael clarified that committee members do not necessarily go to the University Council meetings, nor do they vote. Brenda added that since committee members usually serve 3 years, (with the exception of Parking Appeals Committee members serving 2 years), it's debatable how long the University Council memberships should last.

Christine offered her opinion that the committee members and University Council members be separate, and that it should be determined whether anyone on Staff Council wanted to be considered as a candidate for the council membership before asking the committee candidates if they would also serve as council members.

Mary Moore disagreed with Christine because the committees are not terribly active, and that for her, part of the draw of being a committee member was to also serve on the University Council. Michael agreed with Mary's statement. Mary added that she felt it was cleaner and simpler for committee members to also be council members, and that this added value to serving on a committee. Kristen Lawrence added that perhaps for now if one of the elected committee candidates could not also serve as a council member, then a separate elected council member could serve a 3 year term and when the committee member's 1 year term ends, the council member could be asked whether or not they wanted to also serve on a committee.

Christine pointed out that it was a coincidence that Staff Council had 3 vacancies for University Council members and 3 vacancies for committee members. Brenda said that it wasn't really a coincidence; the positions were originally set up to correspond to committee membership. She added that terms are usually staggered, but sometimes committee members don't fulfill their terms. Michael added that once a Staff Council member is elected to be a University Council member, they will fulfill their term even if they no longer are a Staff Council representative, but are required to attend Staff Council to give committee reports. Brenda added that this issue be addressed in the next revision of the bylaws. Christine agreed.

A lively discussion followed about how to resolve the issue of whether or not the Staff Council should have separate University Council members and committee members. Parliamentarian Christine Jepsen said that Staff Council bylaws state that Staff Council have 9 representatives on University Council and it is preferable that each member serve a concurrent term on a committee. However, in the event there is not a sufficient number of candidates willing to serve in both capacities, Staff Council may elect the University Council and committee member positions separately. So, what has been done historically in this issue is backwards, but it still follows the spirit of the bylaws.

Michael pointed out that it is rare for University Council members discuss a motion before voting on it. The Council trusts that the committees and subcommittees have vetted the issue. Michael believes that the committee level is where the important work happens. Nine Staff Council representatives on the University Council are a very small voice in a room of 300 members made up of faculty, administrators, and students.

Election of 1 seat on the Strategic Planning Committee: Candidates were Anjali Dougherty (President's Office) and Tokesha Warner (Office of the VP for Research). No one else volunteered or was nominated from the floor. There were no questions asked of the candidates. Anjali Dougherty was elected, and agreed to serve as a University Council member.

Michael expressed sadness that he was giving up his seat and noted that committee members are not allowed to send alternates, but that he would attend for Anjali if she were unable to go. Brenda noted that anyone could attend the committee meetings as they are open to the public.

Election of 2 seats on the Student Affairs Committee: Candidates were Pattie Holly (School of Pharmacy), George Veeder (EITS), and Laura Kelley (FACS). Kyla Sterling (Terry College of Business) volunteered to be nominated from the floor. There were no questions asked of the candidates. Laura Kelley and Kyla Sterling were elected, and agreed to serve as a University Council members.

Election of Staff Council Committee Chairs: Elmer Gray remains chair of Needs and Concerns. Not all members of Communications committee were present so no chair was elected. Devin Arnold agreed to chair Health and Safety with Marcus Jennings as advisor. No chair was elected for Benefits and Classifications.

Michael stated that Mary Moore will need to send out an email request soliciting chairs for committees. He also shared that committee chairs attend the Executive Committee meetings and would participate, if they wanted to, in a Challenge Leadership Course at Ramsey.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.

Next Staff Council Executive Committee meeting 3:30pm Tuesday, August 25, 2015, Georgia Center, Room D.

Next Staff Council meeting 2:30pm September 2, 2015, MLC Room 267.