



The University of Georgia

Staff Council

Making a great place to work even better!

January 13, 2016
Miller Learning Center Room 250
2:30PM

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm by Staff Council Chair, Michael Lewis.

Roll Call

Members in attendance: Devin Arnold, Deborah Baker, Jason Bedgood, Teri Berryman, Kaelin Broaddus, Kelly Cona, Anjali Dougherty (via sub), Melinda Eades, Kat Farlowe, Elmer Gray, Michele Griffin, Stefani Hilley (via sub), Pattie Holly, Holly Ivy, Stuart Ivy, Melissa Jackson, Kevin James, Marcus Jennings, Christine Jepsen, Jenna Jones (via sub), Brenda Keen, Laura Kelley, Michael Lewis, Marie Mize, Mary Moore, Maggie O'Brien, Maureen O'Brien, Laquita Phillips, Kyla Sterling (via sub), Carly Surratt, Kristi Wall (via sub), Shialoh Wilson

Members absent: Mandy Brogdon, Debi Chandler, Victoria Cooper, Norma Holliday, Kristin Lawrence, Laura Rhicard, Sherri Stephens

A quorum was present.

Michael welcomed new members Laquita Phillips and Kevin James.

Minutes: There was no December meeting and thus no minutes to approve.

Staff Council Committee Reports

Needs and Concerns: Elmer Gray reported that he contacted Danny Sniff, Associate VP for Facilities Planning, about the problematic intersection near Joe Frank Harris Commons. Lara Mathes, Director of Campus Planning, responded that the intersection has been a concern for a long time, and as of December 2015, a transportation planning and engineering firm is under contract and charged with developing and proposing solutions. They will be working with members of the UGA police and transit departments. Their first meeting is January 15, 2016.

Elmer also reported that the Biosafety Community Liaison Committee is scheduled to meet in January.

Communications: Melinda Eades reported that the committee met in December and is working on updating the Staff Council web site, including links to SRGs. She encouraged all Staff Council representatives to send her a current brief bio and photo for the Staff Council web site.

Health and Safety: Devin Arnold reported that the committee would meet the week of January 18th. He also shared new information about act-of-nature damage caused to vehicles parked on campus. UGA will not compensate for loss unless the victim goes to extreme measures (e.g., keeping a tree limb that fell on a car to prove that it was diseased and thus an accident waiting to happen). Michael added that this is the normal stance of liability law in general.

Benefits and Classification: Deborah Baker reported that the committee has not met since the last Staff Council meeting. She brought up the lively interchange on the Staff Listserv that arose after the BOR announced changes to USG shared leave policy in December, and that she contacted Travis Jackson in HR and he told her that more information would be released this week. She sent him a list of major concerns to help guide him in crafting his message. Mr. Jackson offered to come to Staff Council. Michael will invite Mr. Jackson to talk to Staff Council.

Chair's report

There were no committee meetings or other functions since Michael's last report.

University Council Committee Reports

Facilities Planning: Mary Moore reported that the committee met in early December and draft minutes follow:

**University Council Facilities Committee Meeting
December 2, 2015
Room 101, Lumpkin House**

Attendance:

Mary Beisswenger, School of Law
Marc Galvin, School of Law
John Mativo, Career & Information Studies
Danny Sniff, Office of University Architects
Alison Smith, College of Environment & Design
Lara Mathes, Office of University Architects
Jennifer Samp, Communication Studies
Naomi Norman (for Rahul Shrivastav), OVPI
Jimmy Williamson, University Police
Mary Moore, OIR
Traci Sapp, OIR
Holly Sellers, Population Health
Ralph Johnson, Facilities Management
Mark Anderson, Romance Languages
Susan Roberts, School of Art
Jayani Jayawardhana, College of Public Health
Bynum Boley, Forestry
Emma Lang, Foods & Nutrition
Dan Walter, Transportation & Parking
Brian Kiepper (Chair), Poultry Science

The committee meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Brian Kiepper.

1. Verbal report to committee by **Ralph Johnson, UGA Facilities Management:**

- Work continues on the project to replace UGA's aging coal-fired boiler with a much more efficient electrode (electrically-powered) boiler. More information on the project can be found at: <http://sustainability.uga.edu/uga-develops-plan-to-install-new-electrode-boiler/>. The new boiler is in place and tests runs are underway. The old boiler is scheduled to be demolished and removed. Once completed there will be no more coal delivered by train on-campus. The new system is much more efficient with shorter ramp up and down times and the ability to use flex-fuel.
- Response to a question concerning little used rail bed through campus: Rail bed is privately owned through a lease from Norfolk Southern Railroad. There are no customers on the line, but UGA does not control. Danny Sniff mentions that there have been many conversations over the last 20 years concerning the rail bed and those discussions are likely to continue in the future.
- The project to install a new 2000 TON Chiller at the corner of Newton & Baxter is complete and covers campus area which includes Special Collections Library, New Bolton Dining Hall, Russell & Brumby Dorms and central campus.
- Awarding of the contract to expand Chiller system at Energy Plant 2 is underway. This system will take on additional central campus load and the new Science Learning Center.
- Major MRR projects:
 - The Biological Sciences building is scheduled to be reroofed under a ~\$1 million contract starting in early January
 - Replacement of pedestrian footbridge over S. Thomas Street is underway. New primary steel structure is in place.
- Future MRR budget: work starting on future budget. Governor proposed same funding level for FY17 as for FY16, which is good news since FY16 mark a significant increase from the deep cuts in FY15. Hope that funding will allow continue work on "deferred maintenance backlog".

2. Verbal report to committee by **Danny Sniff** (supplemented by **Lara Mathes**), UGA Office of University Architects:

- Three transportation studies are being conducted to address congestion at key campus locations: 1. Carlton Street (specifically adjacent to the new Science Learning Center), 2. East Campus Loop, and 3. S. Lumpkin/Baxter/Baldwin Intersections. By the Fall of 2016, the university should have recommendations for improved efficiency and multi-modal safety.
- Don Walter (Head of UGA Transportation & Parking), will be overseeing a comprehensive UGA parking study.
- Major Projects Update:
 - New Indoor Athletic Practice Facility (Rutherford Street) – contractor scheduled to mobilize on December 20, 2015. Project will start with and requires a tremendous amount of dirt removal from the site.
 - New Science Learning Center (Carlton Street) – Project completion will continue through this spring. Plan is for move in to occur beginning this summer. Move will result in clean out of major portions of the current Biology and Chemistry building which will allow for refurbishing of old lab spaces in those building for future use.

- Complex Carbohydrate Research Center (Addition) - An \$18 million addition (separate building with a physical connector to the present facility) to the CCRC is underway. This project will add 6 Eminent Scholars to the facility and expand the center's work into the realm of human medicine.
- The Historic Preservation Master Plan project has produced a edatabase that is now complete and accessible by the public. 62% of Georgia historical resources are owned by UGA.
- The College of Agricultural & Environmental Science purchased the "Iron Horse" farm in southern Oconee County. Irrigation and other renovations of the property are approximately half complete.
- The area on campus designated for Phase 2 of the Business Learning Community has been fenced off. Project calls for classes to begin in Phase 2 facilities in the Fall of 2017.
- Future Projects Update:
 - Clark Howell Hall (1937) renovation
 - Phase 3 of Business Learning Community (will result in Brooks Hall become open)
- Southern Archeology has taken over the former parking lot on Baldwin Street where human remains were discovered during construction. The site was cleared by law enforcement as site is likely an old burial plot.
- There is a UGA initiative underway to look at the possibility forming Private-Public Partnerships for on-campus student dorms.

Chairman Brian Kiepper introduced Don Walter to the committee as the new head of the now combined UGA Department of Transportation & Parking. The committee (based on Brian Kiepper's suggest) expressed interest in having Don added to the committee as an *Ex-officio* members. Brian Kiepper stated he would explore the procedural steps to complete this task.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Human Resources: Brenda Keen reported that the committee is putting finishing touches on a proposal to UGA to allow Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) to include employees' dependents and spouses. The proposal will be put forth as a motion to the University Council at the February 2016 meeting. Brenda credited Michele Griffin for her work on the proposal. Marie Mize stated that there is a lack of support for this statewide by USG. Michele clarified that it's possible for individual institutions under the USG umbrella to cover such an expense with discretionary funds. Marie added that USG is working on a proposal for TAP to cover online and professional courses.

Strategic Planning: Anjali Dougherty sent the following minutes:

Strategic Planning Committee of the University Council

Summary of 12/10/15 Meeting

One new faculty member (Dr. James Zhang, College of Education) of the Committee was introduced.

We reviewed the benchmark data collected for each of the priorities set by the 2020 Strategic Plan for Undergraduate Education. A list of questions/areas we needed further clarification on was made. The benchmark data we reviewed was collected by the Office of Academic Planning.

It was decided that the notes made from the meetings where we reviewed the benchmark data will be turned into a written report that will be presented to the University Council in the Spring of 2016.

Library: Laura Rhicard was not present.

Student Affairs: Laura Kelley reported that the committee has not met.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Revised Bylaws: Michael opened the discussion of the revised bylaws. Marcus Jennings noted that the census data in Table 2 is incorrect, and Michael acknowledged that it is from 2013, and that new data will be researched and added.

Stuart Ivy shared that section 3.2 Non-voting Members is in conflict with a proposed revision to section 4.3 University Council Representatives that allows for Staff Council representatives who serve on University Council committees to become voting members of Staff Council. Brenda said that if the revision were approved section 3.2 would be deleted.

Michael asked if the Council understood the reason for the changes to the bylaws, the main one being to add a new position of Treasurer to the executive committee and to give the Treasurer the financial duties heretofore handled by the Coordinator.

The proposed revisions to the bylaws also include adding the standing committee chairs to the Executive Committee, and allowing Staff Council reps who serve on University Council committees (a 3-year term) past their commitment as Staff Council representatives (a 1-year term) to become ex-officio voting members of Staff Council. Laura Kelly asked if that meant two representatives from her college would come to Staff Council because she sits on a University Council committee. Michael clarified that as an ex officio member, Laura would not be representing her college but rather her University Council committee.

Michael asked for a motion to vote on the revisions. Stuart Ivy moved that the Council accept the revised bylaws, including the striking of section 3.2, as presented by Michael. Michael asked for discussion. There was no discussion. Michael called for a vote, and the motion carried unanimously.

Nominating Committee: Michael must appoint a Nominating Committee now so they can draft a slate of candidates for April elections for offices of Chair, Vice-Chair, Coordinator, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and also for University Council committees. The Nominating Committee

will also draft a slate for June elections for 3 Members-At-Large to the Executive Committee. Brenda Keen nominated Kelly Cona and she accepted. Christine Jepsen volunteered to serve. Michael convinced new representative Kevin James to serve.

Mary Moore encouraged all Staff Council representatives to step up and run for Executive Committee offices and committee assignments. Christine Jepsen added that the time commitment is minimal.

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 pm.

Next Staff Council Executive Committee meeting 3:30 pm Tuesday, January 26, 2015, Georgia Center, Room C.

Next Staff Council meeting 2:30 pm February 3, 2016, MLC Room 267.