



The University of Georgia

## Staff Council

*Making a great place to work even better!*

**May 4, 2016**  
**Miller Learning Center Room 207**  
**2:30PM**

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 pm by Staff Council Chair, Michael Lewis.

### **Roll Call**

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

*Members absent:* Victoria Cooper, Melinda Eades, Savannah Hembree, Norma Holliday, Christine Jepsen, Roswell Lawrence, Laura Rhicard, Sherri Stephens, Kyla Sterling, Willie Thorton

A quorum was present.

**Minutes:** Michael asked for a motion to approve the April minutes. They were approved unanimously.

### **Staff Council Committee Reports**

Because of time constraints, there were no Staff Council Committee reports.

### **University Council Committee Reports**

Because of time constraints, there were no University Council Committee reports.

### **Chair's report**

Because of time constraints, there was no Chair's report.

### **New Business:**

#### *Election of Officers:*

*Chair:* Michael Lewis was the sole nominee. As there were no additional nominations from the floor, Michael was therefore declared the winner by acclamation.

*Vice Chair:* Marie Mize was the sole nominee. As there were no additional nominations from the floor, Marie was therefore declared the winner by acclamation.

*Coordinator:* Mary Moore was the sole nominee. As there were no additional nominations from the floor, Mary was therefore declared the winner by acclamation.

*Treasurer:* Nominees were Teri Berryman and Stefani Hilley. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Teri Berryman was elected.

*Recording Secretary:* Kaelin Broaddus was the sole nominee. As there were no additional nominations from the floor, Kaelin was therefore declared the winner by acclamation.

*Election of University Council Committee seats:*

*Human Resources Committee (one seat):* Kelly Cona, Laura Kelley, and Kerri Testament were the nominees. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Because a majority was not reached in the first voting, a second voting was held for Kelly Cona and Laura Kelley. Kelly Cona was elected.

*Student Affairs/Student Life (two seats):* Kevin James was the sole nominee. Laura Kelley and Stefani Hilley nominated themselves from the floor. Kevin James and Laura Kelley were elected.

**Guest Speaker:**

Michael introduced Lara Mathes, from the Office of University Architects, to talk about the university's Master Plan.

Lara said that her presentation was a history of the Master Plan and an overview of the document and how it guides campus growth today. She started off with a slide of Herty Field when it was a parking lot.

The Master Plan begins with the history of the University of Georgia, broken into three sections:

- Foundation, Survival, and War: 1784 through 1866
- Reconstruction and Modernization: 1866 through 1932
- The Contemporary University: 1932 through 1997

The Master Plan began in 1997–1998. The guiding principles for the Master Plan are:

- Create the optimal student environment
- Extend the characteristics of North Campus
- Develop a connected campus
- Define and provide for current and future facility needs
- Provide for academic and student needs on contiguous lands
- Develop solutions to traffic, parking and infrastructure
- Protect and enhance natural resources
- Participate in regional coordination
- Prepare for sustained implementation

The next section in the Master Plan is a collection of inventory maps created in the late 1990s that account for physical characteristics of the campus, campus topography, location of open

spaces, uses and conditions of buildings. The original maps were hand drawn. They have since been added to GIS (Geographic Information Science) and are continually updated.

The next section of the Master Plan assesses future needs for the next twenty years, and began with an understanding the academic program of every college on campus including instruction, outreach, and research components. Then a space needs assessment was done along with parking projections and an assessment of current land holdings.

The space needs assessment was very specific and quantitative. University and college planning metrics were then applied to the assessment data to project what UGA should have in terms of classrooms, research labs, library spaces, and so forth. Then that information was used to prioritize the capital outlay plan.

The next stage of the plan was to prepare preliminary concepts organized around land use and urban design principles, transportation planning, and open space planning. From those concept plans, certain themes started to emerge:

- Building parking decks around the periphery of campus to make the heart of campus a pedestrian haven
- Enhancing open spaces and natural areas, providing active and passive open areas
- Updating infrastructure to support the needed expansion

Those themes and concepts merged into a comprehensive and detailed physical master plan, along with illustrative drawings that would help the administration sell the concept to the state of Georgia and other donors.

The next part of the plan is implementation in these steps:

- Prioritizing projects and improvements
- Developing cost estimates for the top priorities
- Adding those estimated costs to Capital Improvement Program which is submitted to the Board of Regents every two years
- Creating a set of site design and architectural standards to guide design and construction

Lara shared a series of slides showing projects that had been implemented out of the Master Plan:

- The Miller Learning Center (2003)
- The Special Collections Library (2011)
- The Coverdale Center (2006)
- Tate 2 (2009)
- East Campus Village Residence Halls (2004)
- Pharmacy Addition (2012)
- The Science Learning Center (under construction, will open in Fall 2016)
- The Business Learning Community (phase 1 completed, phase 2 under construction, phase 3 to be funded in the next fiscal year)

Lara stressed that the Master Plan is a living working document, always evolving. Since the adoption of the Master Plan, 16 million gross square feet, or 40 percent of current square footage, has been added to campus in the last 18 years. Also, 60 acres of green space have been added to campus. 33 of those were previously impervious surfaces such as parking lots, 15 acres have been ecologically restored, and 13 are improved athletic spaces.

Lara said that the Master Plan evolves on a precinct level. The precincts are Northwest, North, Northeast, Central, South, East, and Research Park (Riverbend Road).

Lara then brought up the transportation plan underway right now to address three sections of campus: Lumpkin Street between Baldwin and Baxter Streets, and Carlton Street by the Science Learning Center, and East Campus broadly. She noted that there are some key problem areas in East Campus, specifically where the River Road loop intersects Carlton, but the remedy there is really a larger network-related remedy.

Lara shared that a component of the East Campus traffic puzzle is improving alternative transportation access in and out. To that end, the Greenway is going to be extended further south from Dudley Park to College Station Road. And, construction will start this year to build a fourteen-foot-wide multi purpose pedestrian/bike path through the Hardeman Tract and over the Oconee River where it will meet up with campus near the performing and visual arts hill.

Laura Kelley asked if the transportation plan consultants were aware of the pedestrian traffic that creates a bottleneck where River Road intersects Carlton. Lara said that they are aware of that problem, but that it's not the only problem in East Campus that needs to be addressed. There are also safety issues involving cyclists, pedestrians, and cars; there are speed issues; and there are issues with visitors not being able to find their way to the Museum or Performing Arts Center. Because the problem is so complex, the consultants have been asked to propose short-term recommendations that are easy and affordable to implement, as well as long-term recommendations.

Kerri Testament shared that EITS is spread across about seven buildings, and the Master Plan shows her building to be a parking structure at some point, though it isn't now. Kerri wondered about the mechanism for addressing needs that remain after changes are made. Lara said that it's tricky. The Master Plan is a guide, not a fixed document, and precinct plans evolve over time.

Melissa Jackson asked about pedestrian bridges. Lara said the challenge with pedestrian bridges is that they work best with the natural topography, without the need for adding stairs on either side of the bridge. Lara mentioned that there is a plan to extend the pedestrian bridge between the MLC and Tate 2 all the way over to hit Sanford close to Physics. Funding for pedestrian bridges is tricky. A pedestrian bridge was considered for Bolton, but it couldn't get funded and fell out of the project.

George Veeder asked about tunnels and Lara said they have the same issue with accessibility that pedestrian bridges have.

Kerri Testament commended the placement of fences that prohibit pedestrians from just walking out into the streets. Especially with students paying more attention to their phones than to where they are going. Lara said that is a big issue. She said that in addition to solving traffic issues, there is the issue of "pedtextrians."

George Veeder commented on the decreased access for campus service vehicles. He said it's getting harder for these vehicles to park near the buildings they need to access. State parking spaces have disappeared, and parking on the sidewalk causes issues for people in wheelchairs. Lara agreed that service alleys need more attention paid to them across campus. She said that facilities management has addressed the issues with a zone shop approach utilizing smaller electric vehicles.

Lacey Tench asked about adding pedestrian crosswalks across Green Street. Lara said that Facilities Management Division is rolling out several new mid-street crosswalks that are a result of a Student Government Association resolution.

Michael Lewis brought up that several years ago the Family and Consumer Science college was next on the list for a new building and a site was selected, but now a different college is getting a new building on that site. Lara said the administration's priorities drive the capital outlay plan, and also fundraising. She said most projects going forward are being built because of private money, like the new Terry building. The State of Georgia wants to see the university come to the table with 30 to 50 percent of the funds.

Laura Kelley asked about the timeline given to the contractors for the issues concerning East Campus. Lara said a formal report from them is due in July, and then recommendations will be made to the administration.

George Veeder also brought up the problem of students dropping off other students all over campus in the middle of everywhere. Lara said that it's a persistent problem that is not enforced.

Kelly Cona reminded us that next month we will elect three At-Large members of the Executive Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.

Next Staff Council Executive Committee meeting 3:30 pm Tuesday, May 24, 2016, Georgia Center, Room C.

Next Staff Council meeting 2:30 pm June 1, 2016, MLC Room 207.