June 5, 2019
Miller Learning Center, Room 348
2:30PM

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by Staff Council President, Marie Mize.

Roll Call:

Members in attendance: Christine Ahern, Charlie Bauder, Brittany Barnes (present via sub, Vanessa Terrell), Debi Chandler, Christopher Childs, Kelly Cona, Lesley Coffey (present via sub Stacy Piotrowski), Hayley Cox, Melanie Crawford, Anjali Dougherty (present via sub, Lane Johnson), Tamala Foreman, Jami Gilstrap, Eimer Gray, Michele Griffin, Savannah Hembree, Wesley Johnson, Laura Kelley, Jennifer Layting, Emma Mattox, Brittny Minor, Jackie Mitchell, Marie Mize, Matt Mundy, Jessica Owens, Jacob Schindler, Ken Schroder, Alec Shepherd, Gabrielle Saupe (present via sub Lesley Sitz), Kyla Sterling

Members absent: Ian Armit, Macie Fouche, Danielle Free, Matt Hammons, Andrew Hanneman, Angie Heusser, Pattie Holly, Stuart Ivy, Kevin James, Heather Macon, Michelle Matthews, Mary Moore, Liz Phillips, Amanda Shaw, Joy Strickland, Matt Weeks, Beth Woods

A quorum was present.

Marie thanked the group for coming.

GUEST SPEAKER: Sara Pauff, Public Relations Specialist with EITS

Sara let the group know that starting on July 5th there would be notifications on email sent from external (non-UGA) accounts. The notification would appear as a banner banner across the email; this will hopefully help users recognize when an email is a phishing attempt or a scam. External emails won’t automatically go to junk mail, they will still show up in users
inboxes. EITS is working on getting exceptions for some big outside vendors like OneSource and Handshake.

Christine Ahern asked if any notification would appear in the email’s subject line.

Sara replied that the notification would just be in the body the email.

There were no other questions, so Marie thanked Sara for speaking to the group.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Savannah Hembree from the Health and Safety Committee said that their group had been tasked with requesting shelters at bus stops and new sidewalks on Riverbend Road. They emailed Todd Berven and he submitted the request to the University Architects Office and to Athens-Clarke County and they are waiting to hear back.

Elmer Gray asked about the proposed time frame.

Savannah said that at the moment there is no concrete timeframe, but the committee will request an update at the end of the month; the university and county are now aware of the problem and to the increased use of the sidewalks and bus stops in this area.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Marie let the group know that the Staff Networking Program is going live in the fall. The group will be meeting shortly and anyone interested in joining that group should let Marie know.

She also mentioned that the Staff Resource Fair was a big hit, and Debi Chandler would be organizing the 2020 fair.

Marie asked the group for feedback on Staff Appreciation Day.

Debi Chandler said that she heard that staff really enjoyed it and that they liked the hands on activities.

Kelly Cona said that she saw lots of people coming and going and Marie replied that *Columns* reported that there were fewer attendees (3100 down from 3500).

Kyla Sterling mentioned that the bus routes (no special buses this year) were too long and it took at least 30 minutes to get back to work from the event.

Kelly Cona asked about the confusing communication regarding ID cards.
Marie said that it was an attempt to address the problem that more non-UGA staff have been attending and eating lunch. UGA’s administration was surprised that many staff members don’t have ID cards, and they removed the requirement of bringing your ID once they realized it was not feasible.

Kelly pointed out that asking for 810 numbers might be more effective since everyone has one.

Christine Ahern asked how administration knew that unaffiliated people were attending.

Marie said that they were physically spotted.

Debi Chandler and Savannah Hembree mentioned that F&A send out paper invites to all employees and presenting that invite could be a solution.

A member mentioned that the buses were too full and staff were not able to get to the event.

Shifting gears, Marie mentioned that there would be two OneSource outages in June and that there would be an early payroll deadline on June 3rd.

**GUIDELINES FOR STAFF LISTSERV**

Marie told the group that she was asked to modify the UGA Staff Listserv guidelines so that they were in line with BOR policy regarding using state resources to express political opinions. She is investigating having someone from Legal Affairs talk to the council to better understand the policy.

Ken Schroder said that he thought the language in the bylaws that suggests that staff can vote on the listserv should be looked at because it creates a closed meeting. Christine Ahern agreed that the language in the bylaws is vague and confusing.

Marie suggested that it might be time to look revising the bylaws.

Kelly Cona mentioned that members aren’t able to have a proxy when voting is conducted via email.

Matt Mundy asked about Stuart Ivy’s email calling for a vote about amending the listserv guidelines.

Marie clarified that a vote isn’t required and that we are required to be in line with BOR guidelines.

A discussion ensued about the guidelines and Jennifer Leyting proposed an ad hoc committee to review and revise the bylaws and Ken seconded the vote. The group voted unanimously to review the bylaws. Jennifer and Marie will co-chair the ad hoc committee.
Kelly asked who moderates the Staff Listserv. Marie said that Stuart Ivy volunteers as the moderator.

Ken said that the new guidelines require more interpretation on the part of the moderator which could pose a challenge because it seems like a bit of gray area.

Joey Carter added that if a staff member is serving as a moderator that staff member has to determine what counts as a violation and that’s a lot of responsibility for one staff member. It’s unfair to that staff member and it’s unfair to members of the listserv.

Laura Kelley said that Stuart is working with legal affairs on a case by case basis. A discussion ensued.

Kyla Sterling said that it might be more productive to discuss this issue when a member of Legal Affairs can joins us to answer questions.

Marie agreed and said she would try to make that happen.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Marie introduced new representatives including:

Lillian Haas from Pharmacy/Ken Schroder would be stepping down

Wesley Johnson from EITS/(Angie Houser would be stepping down

Leslie Sitz from Ecology

Kathryn Reeves from Grady

**ELECTION OF AT-LARGE POSITIONS**

Savannah Hembree announced that there were three at-large positions and four nominations, including:

Melanie Crawford
Elmer Gray
Tamala Foreman
Christine Ahern

The group voted by paper ballot and Elmer, Tamala, and Christine were elected for the 2019-2020 year.
STAFF COUNCIL WEBSITE

Kyla Sterling provided the group with an update on the redesign of the Staff Council website, including a usability report she and her group conducted and a prototype of the new website. She said that the redesign would take a bit longer to complete but would hopefully go live in the next couple months. Her report is attached.

Marie adjourned the meeting at 3:34.

UGA Staff Council Health & Safety Committee’s Report for FY2019

Chair: Savannah Hembree

In August, a request was made to look into the pedestrian safety at the intersection of College Station Road and River Road. There is a concern for pedestrians crossing the road during the walk signal and vehicles turn left off of River Road onto College Station Road. Savannah contacted the UGA Police Department and spoke with Captain Adam Fouche. Captain Fouche looked into the matter, but did not see an increase in pedestrian accidents. However, he stated he would increase patrols in the area to help alleviate any near misses.

In April, Elmer Gray brought up safety concerns for both students and staff along Riverbend Road near the Riverbend Road Research buildings and the CCRC. He asked if we could request bus stop covers along with sidewalks. There has been an increase in pedestrian traffic in the area as more students and staff ride buses to and from campus to these buildings. A letter was sent to Todd Berven with UGA Transit in May. Mr. Berven forwarded the request to both Athens-Clarke County since the road is a county road and the Office of University Architects. We are awaiting a response.