2004-2005 Staff Council Officers
President: Deborah Rupp
Vice President: B J Yergens
Secretary: San Miller
Parliamentarian: Charlotte Petrek

STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, September 15, 2004

SC Members Present: Renee Bazemore, David Bledsoe, Heather Blevens, Karlease Bradford, Shelia Bradley, Melissa Brennanman, Regina Bryant, Melissa Buchheit, Vernessia Callahan, Kevin Chappell, Corey Cook, Danny Darby, Natasha Davenport, Dawn Davis, Sue Fagan, Sally Fowler, Tiffany Franklin, Tazar Gissentanner, Frank Hall, Melody Harris, June Houston, Johnathan Keith, Thomas Kersey, Katie Lowry, Gwendolyn Maddox, Yvonne Mangiarancina, John Medlock, Tammy Merck, Jean Miller, San Miller, Bonte Mitchell, Larry Pankey, Charlotte Petrek, Michelle Pettway-Lavender, Wandr a Ponder, Debbie Rupp, Preeti Sagar, Michelle Swain, Maria Trejo, Tracy Van Voris, Anita Webb, and B.J. Yergens.

SC Members Excused: Carolyn Alexander, Donna Bravard, Kyle Bruner, Ronda Christian, Patricia Early, Sandra Garber, Steven Lester, and Tawanna Tookes.

SC Members Absent: Cliveita Caesar, Carolyn Codamo, Kim Harris, Jerry Knox, Ellen Semple, and Henry Winston.

Staff Senators: Kyle Bruner, Carolyn Codamo, Sally Fowler, Sandra Garber, Mary Anne Gaunt, John Medlock, Jean Miller, San Miller, Charlotte Petrek, Debbie Rupp; Leslie and B.J. Yergens.

Guests: Wanda Page, Bill Prigge, Jeris Bennett-Whitaker, Marty Wildes, Ryan Sweeney, Christopher Robertson, Shelby Failing, Sarah Drahovzal, Robin Steinbrenner, Beth Flannigan, and Cornelia Pattillo.

Call to Order and Minutes:
The meeting was called to order by SC President, Debbie Rupp, and the Staff Council August 18, 2004 meeting minutes were approved as submitted with a requested revision. The amended minutes will be corrected and posted. Debbie welcomed B.J. Yergens as the newly elected Vice President of the organization. Item amended to minutes: Debbie Rupp was elected to the University Senate Executive Committee which is of historical importance to the Staff Council.

Scholarship Awards:
Staff Council scholarships were awarded to the following individuals. Congratulations to all those who received their scholarships and best wishes as you pursue your academic programs.
Soumya Hombaiah Carmela Pattillo Jarrett King Ryan Sweeney
Sarah Drahovzal Shelby Failing Christopher Robertson Wanda Page
Martin Wildes George Prigge Jeris Bennett-Whitaker M. Robin Steinbrenner
Elsa Gebremedhin Biziel Morton Chaneta Forts

Staff Council Senator Election:
An election was held for the University Senator vacancy, a position previously held by Leslie Williams. Election ballots were distributed with the names of two (2) possible candidates, Mary Anne Gaunt and Jarrett King, who had previously been listed as candidates for University Senate. Mary Anne Gaunt was elected to the Senate and will finish the previous incumbent’s election term.
Motion to Rename Organization:
A motion was made by Jean Miller and seconded to rename the organization from Staff Advisory Council to Staff Council with discussion that the other universities and state level organizations do not have the word “advisory” in their organization. The motion was passed to change the name of the organization to Staff Council. Logos, and other publications or written materials including the website will be designated to be changed to read same.

Motion for Voting District and Representative Classification Changes:
Tracy Van Voris, on behalf of the By Laws Committee, discussed the Voting District Proposal to define the Council’s voting districts as well as to redefine the Exempt/Non-exempt/Professional and Administrative representatives. Larry Pankey’s question, as to if representation would still be one (1) Representative for every fifty (50) people in each division, was responded to in the affirmative by Tracy. Shelia Bradley commented on the recent growth in membership of Professional and Administrative representatives. A question was called by Charlotte Petrek, and the motion was carried.

Staff Senator Reports: JULY/AUGUST
Oral reports are presented to the Staff Council each meeting with monthly written reports sent to the SC Secretary for publication in the subsequent meeting notes. If applicable, highlights of the Senator Committee Reports are as follows with the actual summary texts available on line.

Kyle Bruner: Cultural Diversity; Athletics
Excused absence. No report.

Carolyn Codamo: IS&T; Library
Absent. No report.

Sally Fowler: APACE (Academic Programs and Continuing Education); Cultural Diversity
No report this month. Cultural Diversity’s was an organizational meeting.

Sandra Garber: Planning and Development, CBSAPC (Capital Budget and Space Allocation), Strategic Planning
Excused absence. No report.

John Medlock: Research; Budget
Research’s meeting included the presentation of the new Associate Vice President, Robert Curry. See notes below.

Jean Miller: Admissions and Standards
No report this month.

Sandra Miller: Commencement, Student Life and Development
Commencement had its organizational meeting with discussion of the proposed Senior Class Gift recognition which would consist of a distinguishing tassel to identify Seniors at the Commencement who have participated in the development process. Student Life and Development had an organizational meeting.

Charlotte Petrek: Faculty Affairs
No report this month.

Debbie Rupp: CBSAPC, FACP (Fiscal Advisory Committee to the President), Senate Executive Committee, Budget
See notes below. FACP group discussed that the proposed mid-year tuition increases may be announced by October. If increased 1% from each university there would be approximately a $1 Million adjustment for Georgia State University.

Mary Anne Gaunt ASUR
N/A newly elected Senator.

Budget Notes:
Debbie Rupp and John Medlock reported that there will be a $68 Million BOR Budget cut requested with Georgia State University requested to cut $7.3 Million from its budget as a permanent budget cut. The
committee promised staff and student input, and Debbie and John will keep the SC advised. Debbie suggested that the SC’s focus should be on the current issues with SC needing to be informed. The University is well managed. John recommended that the Staff Council needs to take responsibility. Charlotte Petrek suggested that the representatives bring a buddy with them to meetings in order that there would be more understanding of the current budget issues.

SC Committee Reports:

AUGUST

Oral reports are presented to the Staff Council each meeting with monthly written reports sent to the SC Secretary for publication in the subsequent meeting notes. If applicable, highlights of the Staff Council Committee Reports are as follows with the actual summary texts available on line.

Standing Committees

BENEFITS COMMITTEE:
Standing Committee Chair- Jean Miller
Secretary- Heather Blevins

The group met to work on a proposal for a pilot program of shared leave at Georgia State University.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE:
Standing Committee Chair- Tracy Van Voris
Secretary- Sue Fagan

Major discussions were being considered as to the election of the Staff Council officers and a review of the charge of the Communication Committee as well as to incorporating Senators as staff. Tracy asked that anyone interested in any of these areas or wishing to comment on these discussions should contact her by e-mail.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE:
Standing Committee Chair- Melody Harris
Secretary- Katie Lowry

No report.

ELECTION COMMITTEE:
Standing Committee Chair- Melissa Brennaman
Secretary- Melissa Bucheit

With the changes in the by laws, the group will be setting a date to meet to discuss and propose revisions to the election process.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
Standing Committee Chair- Debbie Rupp
Secretary- San Miller

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE:
Standing Committee Chair- Larry Pankey
Secretary- Yvonne Mangiaracina

The committee is revisiting its charge and looking at policy and how the Staff Council can plug into current policy groups. The committee is also hoping to review information from prior years.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Standing Committee Chair- Karlease Bradford
Secretary- Patricia Early

The committee is revising the scoring of the scholarship program and redesigning the staff handout.

Other Committees:

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEE
SC Committee Representative
No report.

ASUR COMMITTEE
SC Committee Representative- B J Yergens
No report.
PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
SC Committee Representative- TBD
   No report.

RECREATION CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:
SC Committee Representative
   No report.

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
SC Committee Representative- TBD
   No report.

USGSC (University System of Georgia Staff Council):
SC Committee Representative- Charlotte Petrek
   No report.

Debbie noted that the transition each year, from Staff Council Officer to Staff Council Officer, or Committee Chair to Committee Chair, will be working notebook of documents to pass to the next group of representatives. The notebooks would incorporate more than minutes from previous meetings. Tazar Gissentanner suggested that representatives merge ideas old and new

New Business:
Homecoming door and office decoration will again be judged by Staff Council volunteers. Tiffany Franklin volunteered to represent SC at the Homecoming meeting and will advise the group accordingly.

Weight Watchers has begun its Fall Semester meetings.

Faculty and Staff Annual Giving Campaign Celebration kicks off soon. Last year the University had an 84% participation with $550,000.00 raised.

SAC accreditation will be in 2007.

Congratulations - June Houston was among the SC Representatives chosen for the Leadership Academy of Women.

The meeting was adjourned.

Please contact San Miller, sanmiller@gsu.edu, if there are any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes. Thank you.

Meeting notes respectively submitted by:

San Miller