STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
June 21, 2006
460 University Center


Members Absent: Annette Butler, Jan McCord, Sam Miller, Phillip Mitchell, Christopher Robertson, Jackie Staton, and Rhonda Williams.

Guests: Cheryl Johnson Ransaw.

Staff Council Vice President Shelly-Ann Williams called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The first item of business was the approval of the May minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

Since Dr. Patton had not yet arrived, Shelly-Ann began with Staff Council committee reports. Renee Bazemore gave the report for the Events Committee. Homecoming is February 17 and beginning on February 12 there will be a week of homecoming events. Staff Council will be involved in the door-decorating contest. The committee has begun discussing plans for this year’s Benefits Fair.

Dr. Patton arrived and the floor was turned over to him. He gave the council a campus update. The new housing complex will be called the University Commons and will open Fall 2007. GSU is trying to sell the Village and the hope is that the buyer will turn it into affordable workforce housing. Dr. Patton mentioned that he is focusing his attention to customer service. His office is putting together a sheet of “frequently asked questions” that will be distributed across campus so that folks calling the university will be given accurate information. His staff is cross training in the Enrollment Services area so that they can fill in during crunch times. He is hoping that other offices will do so as well.

He updated the group about our athletic programs. GSU is now in the Colonial Athletic Association. Season basketball tickets can be purchased through payroll deduction. A football feasibility survey is underway. If the decision were made to begin a football program, GSU would be in the Division 1 AA of the Colonial Athletic Association. Dr. Patton was asked for an update on some of the renovations that are ongoing. The Science Teaching Lab will break ground by the end of 2006 and will take two years to build. Changes to Piedmont and Decatur roadways are waiting for the DOT’s final approval. The Courtland Bridge project will begin in 2008 and the DOT says it will take 30 months to complete. Plans for how to run the campus without that bridge are underway. Shelly-Ann thanked Dr. Patton for his support of the Staff Council retreat.

The next item of business was the voting for the staff senator to complete June Houston’s term. The two candidates eligible to be considered were Gary Longstreet and Laurie Jones. The ballots were distributed, completed, and tallied and Gary Longstreet was elected. He will take June’s Senate committee assignment on the Cultural Diversity Committee. Shelly-Ann announced that Raymond Lanier would complete the Senate term left vacant by the departure of Jarrett King.

Committee reports were continued. Sandra Garber noted that the Planning and Development Committee would review the ASUR report on the Research Office. The Staff Council Bylaws Committee has a meeting scheduled for next week. The Staff Development Committee will be reviewing the Staff Scholarship program and will be
working to pull staff development opportunities together. Shelly-Ann gave a recap of the retreat and announced that the Women's Academy will be starting up again soon.

Cheryl Johnson Ransaw from FASA announced the upcoming initiatives: Yoga and Meditation and Weight Watchers. She asked representatives to spread the work to their constituents.

Since there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone