

UNCG Staff Council
January 12, 2006
Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House

Attending: Joella Anderson, Linda Anderson, Jodi Barber, Linda Bennett, Karen Christensen, Jennifer Clark, Pat Combs, Sarah Cottrell, Erin Fox, Brenda Hemphill, Kerry Hinshaw, Robin Kallam, Judy Lillis, Sherri MacCheyne, Kelly Meris, Kathleen Mooney, Amy Moore, Linda Nolte, Cheryl Sarratt, Angela Scott, Trina Smith, Bob Snyder, Maricia Terrell, Glenn Vignola, Evan Wade, Scott Walser, Cindy Webster, Setenna Wyatt

Ex-Officio attending: Deb Carley, Deb Hurley, Gary Rosenkrantz

Absent with notice: Lisa Benatti, Amy Berrier, Karen Core, Mary Gibbs Early, Lee Odom, Paula Terrell, Bill Zahn

Absent: Reble Benton, Diane Logan, Thomas Everett, Lillie Russell

Visitors: 4

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Angela Scott.

Roll Call

The roll was passed. There were 31 members and 4 visitors present.

Minutes of the November and December, 2005 Meetings

The minutes of the November 10 and December 8 meetings were approved without changes.

Special Presentation

Eric Chilton, Chief Meteorologist, WFMY-TV, talked to the Council about how he got his start in broadcasting and about how weather forecasts are generated based on data received from weather balloons which are released 2-3 times per day. Our region is one of the toughest areas in the country to predict because of the tendency for cold air to dam up and create a “wedge” between the mountains and the coast. Eric mentioned that the 5- and 7-day forecasts we all want are not as dependable as 3-day weathercasts, which he prefers. Staff council members enjoyed asking many questions about everything from possible hurricane threats to North Carolina to the accuracy of wooly worm predictions for our winters. This was Eric’s second visit to Staff Council and several staff visitors from offices across campus attended this entertaining and informative presentation.

Human Resource Update

Deb Carley encouraged members to take the on-line survey regarding interest of staff in having tuition waivers for area community college courses. (The link for the survey is on the Human Resources home page.) In response to a question by Linda Anderson, Deb reminded the group that our Flexible Spending Account Cards are good until July of 2007.

Faculty Senate Update

Gary Rosenkrantz told the group that this year the Faculty Senate is focusing on employment issues for faculty pertaining to promotion and tenure. He remarked that the University is in a period of transitioning toward becoming a major research institution and that the pace of the

transition seems to be accelerating. Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary work is being encouraged and supported. It is now possible for faculty in interdisciplinary programs such as Women's Studies to get tenured appointments. It is a time of significant change for UNCG and the UNCG System.

Rosenkrantz noted that new UNC System President Erskine Bowles had requested that the Office of the President of the UNC System be changed to Office of the General Administration. There appears to be an emphasis on a more open attitude toward individual campuses.

Student Government Update

New SGA President, Sandy Dempsey was unable to attend but may be able to join us at a future meeting.

Chair Update

Angela Scott reported on the recent dinner at the GTCC Culinary Institute which several Staff Council members had attended. She circulated another sign-up for two additional options this semester: a formal dining dinner or a buffet on Thursday evenings. Cost is \$7.50 for a delicious meal and fellowship with Staff Council members. Contact Angela for more information (334-5668) or angela_scott@uncg.edu.

Angela also provided information about a half-day team building opportunity for Staff Council on Thursday, February 9. The focus is on decision making. Lunch begins at 12:15 pm and the programming runs until 5:00. At the end of the training for those who are interested, Pat Combs will provide details about an Outreach project for the Salvation Army involving the construction of no-sew blankets for battered women and the homeless in our area.

Other Business

Linda Anderson asked if there had been any movement on the establishment of a staff scholarship and Angela Scott reported that she had recently attended a meeting called by Ray Carney to discuss the development of an application for the scholarship.

Angela Scott announced the UNC System Staff Councils' group would be holding their monthly teleconference meeting on Friday, January 13 from 10:30 until noon in the teleconference room in 183 Stone Building. Agenda items included the possibility of meeting with UNC President Bowles at the State-wide Staff Council meeting at NC Central in March. (The group consists of executive officers and other interested staff council members who meet monthly to discuss issues of concern to all university staff.). The February meeting will be on February 10. All Staff Council members are invited to attend, if interested.

Angela also stated that the next Faculty Senate Meeting will be February 1, 2006. We will soon receive information by listserv about the Student First Campaign.

Committee Updates

Finance - K. Core

No report due to Karen's absence.

Nominations/Elections – Deb Hurley

Past SC Chair Deb Hurley has replaced Ronnette King who had been serving as our Nominations/Elections Chair and Parliamentarian after the departure of Kelly Hilliard. Deb is

looking at a timeline and will be announcing plans for our spring election in the near future. She asked that members begin thinking about people to nominate for membership [and leadership] for next year.

Employee Enrichment - Brenda Hemphill/Amy Moore

Staff Council will be showing the “Best of Rosita Perez” video in the auditorium in New Science Building on Friday, February 24. Check-in is at 1:30 pm. Other possible opportunities for employee enrichment activities are being discussed by the committee.

Public Relations – Cheryl Sarratt

Last year, the PR committee developed a Statement of Purpose which includes the following goals:

- Enhance the awareness of Staff Council by highlighting its successes.
- Foster 2-way communication between Staff Council and its constituents
- Encourage active participation among members
- Welcome involvement from the University community as a whole

The committee will schedule a meeting before the February 9 Staff Council meeting to discuss these goals.

Outreach – Pat Combs/Lee Odom

In Lee’s absence, Pat reported that plans are underway for the Staff Excellence awards nominations.

Information Sharing - Highlighting Staff Council Members:

Pat Combs described her work in Student Academic Services for the past 12 years and the fact that enjoys a lot of direct contact with undergraduate students. Among other tasks, Pat is responsible for administering the tuition surcharge policy and for serving students who are in academic difficulty. She processes various types of academic appeals which can number up to 40-50 per week during peak periods.

Sarah Cottrell maintains the Alumni House building, hosts weddings, and provides mentoring and support to the housekeeping staff. She says (from the heart) that she really enjoys her job very much—“Love the House, love the people!”. Sarah has also been maintaining the Staff Council website for the past several years and sharing some of the responsibility for taking photos for the Council.

Linda Nolte began her career at UNCG in the Student Health Center where she sometimes had to help revive student wrestlers who fainted during immunizations. She currently works in the Processing Services division of Admissions and says she also loves UNCG. Linda is active in her church and in Project Linus, which creates warm blankets and afghans for the homeless and other groups in need. (Pat Combs shares Linda’s enthusiasm for making blankets for charities.)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 am.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Sarratt.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 9 at 10:00 in the Virginia Dare Room. Presentation by Heather Sanderson from Campus Recreation.

Also on February 9: Lunch and afternoon TeamQUEST Teambuilding Training, Piney Lake, from 12:15 5:00 pm, with opportunity for training after 5:00 pm for outreach **service project**.