

**UNCG Staff Council
November 9, 2006
Faculty Center**

Roll Call

Twenty-nine delegates, two *ex-officio* members, and one guest were present.

Attending: (29) Heather Azzu, Jodi Barber, Linda Bennett, Shannon Burks Clegg, Jennifer Clark, Karen Core, Ray Davis, Mary Gibbs Early, Joyce Graves, Brenda Hemphill, Robin Kallam, Davis Lee, Kevin McClain, Kelly Meris, Scott Milman, Kathleen Mooney, Amy Moore, Lee Odom, Ann Perdue, Jennie Prince, Cheryl Sarratt, Paula Terrell, David Vaughan, Evan Wade, Scott Walser, Mitzi Wilder, Mike Williams, Suzanne Williams, Lori Wright.

Absent with notice: (5) Amy Berrier, Judy Lillis, Diane Logan, Maricia Terrell, Alan Boyette

Absent: (7) Sarah Cottrell, Willie Dowd, Kerry Hinshaw, Michelle Larsen, John Simmerman, Glenn Vignola, Erma Totten Williams

Ex-Officio Attending: (2) Sharlene O'Neil, Jonae Wartel

Guest Attending: (1) Deb Carley

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by David Vaughan at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda

Lori Wright moved to approve the agenda, Ann Perdue seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Cheryl Sarratt presented minutes of the October 12th meeting. Evan Wade noted that he had been absent with notice from the October meeting and asked that the attendance roster reflect this change. Jennie Prince moved to approve the minutes as amended and Amy Moore seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

Human Resource Services (HRS) Update – Deb Carley

Deb reported that open enrollment for NC Flex ended last week with only a few glitches. Staff should check their packet from the State to be sure there were no errors. Deb also thanked Staff Council for helping to co-sponsor the workshops for Wellness Week and reported hearing lots of positive comments.

Starting October 1, new hires will no longer get automatic health insurance coverage after 5 years of employment. Twenty years of service will be required for full coverage.

Vice Chancellors' Update – Alan Boyette

No report.

Chancellor's Update – Sharlene O'Neil

Sharlene reported that the resignation of Provost Ed Uprichard had been announced and that a committee of representatives from the University community was being formed to begin a search for a new provost.

The Chancellor is meeting this week with the Board of Governors to work on the long-range budget for 2007-2009 which will be presented to General Administration. David Vaughan reminded members that the Chancellor will meet with Staff Council at the December meeting and members should submit questions for discussion to him by December 1.

Announcements from the Chair

David Vaughan reported that date and location changes for the Staff Council Executive Committee have been posted on the Staff Council website, thanks to Kevin McClain and Suzanne Williams. The committee had found that meeting in the EUC food court or in Spencer's had become too noisy and has moved its location to the Graphics and Printing facility on Tate Street.

David provided an update on the first official UNC Staff Assembly meetings on October 16 and 17 in Chapel Hill. He reminded the group that chair-elect Suzanne Williams had been elected to represent the UNCG Staff Council for a three-year term, that he would be serving a two-year term, and Lee Odom a one-year term. Karen Core is serving as alternate for this year. The first conference proved to be an interesting experience and David said he had learned from the discussions to appreciate the fact that staff at UNCG enjoy respect from our faculty, an administration open to listening, and an overall positive environment, despite restrictions placed on us as State employees. The positive relationship at UNCG doesn't exist at all UNC campuses.

The conference included 18 delegations from the 16 UNC universities, the School of Math and Science, and the General Administration's own staff organization. An informal gathering was held on Monday which allowed our delegates to get to know a few others. Initially, people seemed wary, skeptical, and were sometimes contentious during the session on Monday afternoon. Nominations were held for Staff Assembly officers and Suzanne Williams was nominated for the position of Secretary.

By Tuesday morning, however, the group seemed much more harmonious and unified. J.C. Boykin from NC State was elected for a two-year term as Chair, JoAnn McKnight from UNCG Asheville was elected for a 1-year term as Vice Chair, and Suzanne was elected Secretary for a 1-year term. The officers will meet by teleconference and begin to set up committees.

UNC President Erskine Bowles reminded the new Staff Assembly that the rights and benefits of staff are not under the purview of the University but under the Office of State Personnel. The General Assembly cannot be overruled by the Board of Governors. President Bowles said he considers himself "staff" and mentioned that one Staff Assembly committee will be created to address staff concerns. He reiterated his priorities to increase

need-based financial aid to students, raise the level of faculty salaries to within 80% of our peer institutions, and third, to address the needs of staff. He recognizes the importance of staff issues but cannot consider them his first or second priorities at this time. David Vaughan mentioned that a second Staff Assembly conference will take place in Spring 2007.

David stated that he was really proud of the plans for the Workplace Wellness week. He thanked Amy Berrier, Mary Early, and Jodi Barber for their work in planning the programming, Suzanne for her leadership from Enrollment Services, and Lori Wright and her committee for publicity.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and tear down on Monday, November 11 from 10-2, to host speakers and exhibitors, assemble “goodie bags” and provide ideas and items for them, to provide door prizes and to help to publicize the events. A special thank-you goes to Parking Operations for their support.

Suzanne thanked Lori Wright and Kevin McClain for website promotion and the flyers on the table. She noted that most events are scheduled during the lunch hour period and staff were welcome to “brown bag” except for the yoga and exercise events. The men’s program is scheduled for a 2-hour period, but most events will run 30-45 minutes.

Committee Updates

Elections – Angela Scott

David reported for Angela that the Elections Committee would be holding its first meeting later this month.

Outreach – Shannon Burks Clegg

Shannon reported that 675 books had been donated by UNCG for the Animal Rescue and Foster Program Book Drive fundraiser. Amy Berrier is writing an article on staff fundraising efforts on behalf of the Ronald McDonald House in Duham. She also stated that “Staff Stars” will be posted on the Staff Council website again soon. Amy Berrier and Todd Mitchell have been nominated for “Staff Stars” recognition. Congratulatory notecards to be signed by Staff Council members will be available at the next meeting.

Sign-up sheets are available for the Fox 8 Gifts for Kids project on December 13, 15, & 18. Staff can sign up for a half day or full day commitment and will report to 301 West Greene Street in High Point. Community Involvement leave may be used.

Staff Council is also collecting Christmas gifts for Guilford County foster children through December 8. Watch for additional information about the project in Campus Weekly.

Shannon also reminded the group about the monthly Surplus Sale on November 13. Starting in February, hours for these monthly sales will change: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ann Perdue inquired if UNCG staff could have a “preview day” before these sales, but Shannon

replied that State regulations require equal access to all NC citizens at these sales of surplussed State items.

Public Relations – Lori Wright

Lori thanked members for their help at the Fallin' for Fun Fest on October 22. Karen Core mentioned that extra Staff Council pens are left over, if anyone would like some. She mentioned that the PR Committee would be meeting soon to plan for the name change for Staff Council to Staff Senate.

Employee Enrichment – Amy Moore

Workplace Wellness Week is scheduled November 13 – 17. The program will begin with a kick off celebration in Cone Ballroom Monday, November 13th. Special interest programs will be held throughout the week. Detailed information is posted on the Staff Council website. Amy encouraged everyone to participate and thanked Mary Early, Jodi Barber, and Suzanne Williams for all of their hard work. She also circulated a sign up sheet for volunteers.

Constitution Review – Suzanne Williams

Suzanne asked the group if they wanted to vote clause by clause or as one package on proposed changes to the Staff Council Consitution placed on the table last month. Brenda Hemphill asked if the School of Nursing would be guaranteed a representative in the proposed changes. Suzanne replied that under the proposal, at least one delegate would be guaranteed, which is actually more than in the current constitution.

David asked for a motion and Scott Millman moved to approve the changes as one package. Ann Perdue seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. David will submit the changes to the Chancellor for her approval.

Student Government Association Update – Jonaé Wartel

David introduced Jonaé Wartel, SGA president, to talk about issues concerning students at UNCG. Jonaé distributed a handout describing the purpose of SGA, officers, meeting times and dates, and current projects. The latter include improving the advising system at UNCG, increasing campus communication, creating sustainable solutions for dining and parking issues, and addressing the issue of designated smoking areas.

Jennie Prince asked if SGA is involved with the the Provost's Advising Council on campus and Jonaé replied that the SGA secretary is a member of that group. David Vaughan said there is also an interest in trying to improve career and social advising for students, as well. He asked how Staff Council could be "on the radar" of SGA. Jonaé mentioned that there are many presentations about such issues at SGA meetings and that Staff Council members were welcome to attend.

Lee Odom mentioned that another good resource for SGA is the Staff Advocates for Students Committee. Mike Williams reminded the group that the Housing and Residence Life motto is, "Students First". He asked everyone to please let students know they can contact that office with their concerns.

David thanked Jonaé for her presentation and stated that she was always welcome at Staff Council meetings.

Additional Business

David Vaughan mentioned that he is serving on the Master Plan Committee which will solicit input from faculty and staff. Faculty Senate Chair Anna Marshall-Baker has invited Staff Council to attend the January Faculty Senate meeting to provide feedback. Staff Council members are strongly encouraged to attend this event.

Suzanne Williams asked if Staff Council could donate paper to Eastern Guilford High School since that school facility was recently destroyed by fire. Sharlene replied that since the paper had been paid for with State funds, we could not donate our paper.

David Vaughan reported that NC A& T recently held a fundraiser for Eastern Guilford High School and wondered if we could put up a welcome sign from UNCG at the Millennial Campus facility where some of Guilford High students would resume their classes. Shannon Clegg stated that we could do that, and that UNCG Campus Surplus also has a list of things that Eastern Guilford needs.

Lori Wright inquired whether a staff member would be represented on the Provost Search Committee and Sharlene replied that staff would definitely be represented.

Adjournment

There being no other business, the Chair called for a motion to adjourn. Evan Wade moved to adjourn, Lee Odom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Sarratt.

**Next meeting: Thursday, December 7th at 10:00 a.m. in the Faculty Center.
Chancellor Sullivan will be our featured speaker.**