

**UNCG Staff Senate
May 7, 2009 Minutes
EUC Alexander Room**

Roll Call

30 senators and 2 ex-officio and 1 guest were present.

Attending: (30) Patty Booker, Jonathan Britton, Kevin Bullard, Lois Carney, Ray Carney, Jeffrey Coleman, Janet Dunbar, Judy Guard, Janet Hendley, Julee Johnson, Felicia Joyner, April Judge, Stacy Kosciak, Dale Koutsky, Teresa Lewis, Gay McDonald, Scott Milman, Amy Moore, Katie Ostrowka, Cathy Rogers, Cathy Rothermel, Donna Sexton, Libby Sexton, Rhonda Strader, Connie Uselman, Karen Ward, Kathy Watford, Suzanne Williams

Ex-officio: (2) Alan Bridge, Pat O'Rork

Absent with notice: (10) Peter Ashe, Shelley Ewing, Sharon Humphrey, Brad Johnson, Liz Meeks, Judy Smith, Amelia Smith, Sheryl Williamson, Brian Wilson

Absent: (8) Mark Coker, Joe Dixon, Lee Knight, Ben Kunka, Jennifer Oleson, Ann Perdue, Dean Perdue, Serena Raleigh, Cindy Van Laar

Guests: (1) Sharlene O'Neil

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Scott Milman at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes

Scott Milman presented the April 9, 2009 minutes for approval. Cathy Rogers made a motion to approve the minutes and Donna Sexton seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Agenda

Kevin Bullard presented the proposed agenda for the meeting. Judy Guard proposed a friendly amendment to have the next meeting date amended to June 4.

Donna Sexton made a motion to approve the amended agenda. It was seconded by Janet Dunbar. The motion passed and the agenda was approved.

Opening Remarks

Scott welcomed Senators and thanked them for participating in the Chancellor's Installation.

Kevin Bullard: Report on UNC Staff Assembly

Kevin reported on the May 6 meeting of the UNC Staff Assembly.

Benefits – May 29 is the cutoff date for open enrollment in the Health Plan. Make sure all constituents know this. In Jan 2010 a tobacco provision goes into effect and everyone will move

into the 70/30 Basic Plan until proof is given that each person covered under that policy is a non-smoker. In July 2011 a BMI provision goes into effect. Everyone will move into the 70/30 Basic Plan until proof is given that each person covered under that policy is below a BMI of 40. The second year the BMI threshold will lower to 35. At this point we do not know how this will be enforced. In June the new Health Plan rates go into effect, plus we will see the .5% reduction in pay.

General Administration – GA does not like the furlough plan. The Chair of the Staff Assembly met with President Bowles and presented the UNC Staff Assembly's position on furloughs, that it is a good tool to have, but suggested a \$42,000 threshold for those who would be affected. At this time, EPA employees will also be affected, but GA must determine how that will happen. The Chair of the Staff Assembly also presented President Bowles with a flexible work schedule, with the idea that systems that do not have one in place could use it.

Report on UNCG Budget Sounding Board – Scott Milman

The UNCG Budget Sounding Board met last week. This is a board the chancellor created, made up of 7 members. The budget central website is <http://fsv.uncg.edu/budgetcentral>. New budget information will be posted there, replacing email as the vehicle for information. A link on the site allows you to subscribe to the budget update listserv. The board reviewed the UNCG Values statement and discussed the draft of the Budget Principles (available on the website). The final version will be posted by May 8th.

Ex-Officio Reports

Alan Bridge: HR report

- Swine Flu: The Emergency Committee had been activated but since has been able to stand down. The H1N1 virus is not as strong as first believed it would be, although it is expected to spike again next fall.
- Health Plan: Open enrollment takes place now in a shortened time frame. The cost is going up and the benefits are going down. If you are not currently in the 90/10 plan or the indemnity plan and are happy with your plan you do not need to do anything. If you are in one of those plans or you want to make a change to a different plan, you need to fill out the enrollment forms. In 2010 everyone who is either a smoker or has a smoker on their plan will have to be in the basic 70/30 plan. In 2011 those with a BMI over 40 or has someone on their plan with a BMI over 40, will have to go into the 70/30 plan. In 2012 the BMI changes to 35.
- Furlough, Payout: A half percent (.5%) payout will be taken out. Payroll is trying to accomplish having it taken out over 2 months, instead of all coming out of 1 month's pay. 10 hours of unpaid leave must be taken between June 1 and December 31. The chancellor can mandate how this leave is taken and there is some thought that maybe everyone should take it during the days the University is closed in December. Scott asked senators to send him suggestions about this. We will likely have to provide a report to the state about how the leave was taken. Full time temporary SPA employees will not have reduced pay, but they should be worked 10 hours less by June 10. The budget is actually looking worse for next year, and we can probably expect more

furloughs next year. There is legislation in the House right now regarding how the unpaid leave will affect retirement withholding, and right now longevity pay has not been cut, as was once mentioned by the Governor.

Pat O'Rork – Provost's Office

- They are planning for payroll so reductions can come out in 2 installments.
- GA staff are working hard to coordinate with OSB and OSG.
- As of right now they do not know how the 10 hours of mandated leave without pay will apply towards faculty.

Sharlene O'Neil – Chancellor's Office

- The Chancellor sent her thanks to us for participating in her Installment Ceremony.
- The Chancellor is at the Board of Governor's meeting today.
- Reminder about the Legislative Network – it would be helpful if we were available to send emails to the legislature (on our own time at home).
- Reminder about the Budget Central website – go there for the latest updates on the budget situation.

Committee Reports

Elections – Suzanne Williams

- Waiting to get the seat for HES filled, as the elected senator for that position has decided not to serve.

Communications – Donna Sexton

- They are trying to find someone to take Connie Harman's place on the committee and to help out with things like posters for the Brown Bag Seminars.

Service – Suzanne Williams for Sharon Humphrey

- Heart Walk is May 30. A UNCG team is walking and is on the website, you can join.
- The ART CAN was a big success, and 185 cans of food were collected. Judy Smith (Staff Senator) and Maggie Chrismon received an award for Most Creative.

Staff Recognition – Scott Milman for Sheryl Williamson

- Staff Stars – will get together at the end of the year for a reception.
- Breakfast for the Staff Excellence Award Nominees went very well.

Employee Enrichment – Janet Hendley

- Thank you for participation in the Staff Senate Scholarship Fund. We raised \$689, with an average of \$14 per senator. This made it possible for us to make our goal of 100% participation. Solicitation letters to all previous senators are on hold right now due to the economic situation. Jonathan Britton is creating an honor page and memory page on the Staff Senate website.
- Brown Bag Seminar coming up on May 26 on identifying your communication style.

Staff Welfare – Ray Carney

- Staff Welfare Survey is done. They had a participation rate of 46%, which is very good. The results are being provided to the chancellor. Hopefully, news will be forthcoming over the summer.

Announcements by Chair - Scott Milman

- Mike Harris has announced that Campus Weekly will be printing only half the number of copies usually printed this summer. Starting in August Campus Weekly will be exclusively on-line except for a limited number of paper copies for departments that do not have access to computers.
- The Campus Commute Challenge was a great success. It was held for 6 weeks. 500 people at UNCG pledged to explore an alternative way to get to campus at least once. UNCG folks made up over a third of the total pledges for the Triad region. The Triad Commute Challenge is still going on and will be through late June. You can still pledge and register online by following the link on the UNCG Parking website or going to the PART website.
- May 15 at 10am is graduation. There will be a shuttle service from campus to the coliseum for those that want to go for graduation or only part of it.
- June 4 – our last meeting of the year will be held in EUC Auditorium. Please wear Blue and Gold that day for a photo.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Guard, Secretary.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 4, 10am – 12:00pm in EUC Auditorium