

EAST GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE

Staff Council Meeting

Friday, January 11, 2013

The Staff Council meeting was called to order at 2 pm in room B113 of the Jean Anderson Morgan Student Activities Center on the Swainsboro campus. This meeting was not phone or video conferenced with the Statesboro campus.

Welcome

The meeting began with a welcome from Chair Angie Brown. She explained that she is excited about her position as Chair and hopes to be able to make some changes to improve the quality and focus of Staff Council. She met with Dr. Boehmer to discuss the vision and direction of Staff Council. She is in agreement with Dr. Boehmer that Staff Council needs to be more focused on acting as a liaison for staff and not focus on “club” type activities. They would also like to see increased participation in Staff Council. Angie will work with IT to make the next meeting available to the Statesboro campus, either by phone or video conference.

2012-2013 Officers

There was a review of the new officers. They include Chair: Angie Brown, Vice-Chair: Tabithia Ross, Treasurer: Pam Herrington and Secretary: Amanda Williams.

Member Updates

In an effort to keep our staff list updated and send information to everyone, those present will be asked at each meeting if there have been any employment changes in their departments, such as new hires, retirements, or any individuals who have left employment.

Admissions – Linda Connolly, retired
Grounds - Mark Sweat, new employee
Custodial – Kathleen Cratsenberg, left employment
Custodial – BJ Scott, new employee

Treasurer’s Report

Pam Herrington gave the treasurer’s report.
The current Staff Council balance is \$408.99.
The current Sunshine Fund balance is \$5.97.

Sunshine Fund

Angie Brown discussed the Sunshine Fund with Dr. Boehmer during their meeting, and he does not feel this should be the responsibility of Staff Council. He suggested this be handled departmentally. His office will provide flowers when they receive notification of a situation and deem it appropriate.

Due to the low attendance at the current meeting, voting to eliminate the Sunshine Fund will be

held at the February meeting.

Holiday Luncheon

Dr. Boehmer would like Staff Council to do at least one service project per year and it was agreed that would be the Holiday Luncheon. This year's luncheon appeared to be a success with good attendance on both Statesboro and Swainsboro campus. The "Helping Hands" project this year raised \$160 for elderly nursing home residents who were without family.

Secret Pals

For the past two years, staff members have participated in the Secret Pal program. This is a non-required activity. It is totally voluntary but those who have participated have enjoyed it. Missie Crawford is in charge of the program. Information forms are due to her by the end of the month.

Mission Statement & Bylaws

The original Mission Statement and Bylaws were written in 2003 and need to be revised. A committee needs to be formed but due to low attendance at the current meeting, this item will be tabled until the February meeting. Provided a committee is formed then, we aim to have drafts to review and vote on during the March meeting.

Website

Chair Brown will work with IT on setting up a Staff Council website to display current officers, Mission Statement & Bylaws and meeting minutes.

Discounts

It was discussed that being an employee of the college gives you access to certain discounts that most members are not aware, for example an 18% discount on your phone service at Verizon. Suggestion was made to list the most applicable ones on a flyer or pamphlet and include information about Staff Council. These flyer/pamphlets would be distributed to all current staff and would be given to any new staff members.

Faculty & Staff Development Funds

Funds are not just for faculty. Funds can be utilized by any staff member in any department. These funds can be used for employee development such as classes, workshops, seminars, and conferences. Only 1 staff member in the past few years has requested development funds.

Staff Issues

The main focus of Staff Council should now be to address issues, no matter how small or large, and voice opinions on those issues. When issues are presented to Staff Council, they will be added to the agenda and discussed. If the issue needs to be pursued farther, the Staff Council Chair will then address the issues with the appropriate department, committee, or take the issue directly to the President. Any issue that requires further attention will be monitored until resolution is reached.

The following items are issues that have been submitted and will be discussed at the February meeting:

- Parking for faculty and staff. There are currently not enough parking locations that are easily accessible to faculty and staff. For example, there may be 20 employees in 1 department with only 5 faculty/staff parking spaces available.
- Cell phone reception in Statesboro continues to be an issue.

Adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Next meeting will be February 8th, 2013 at 2:00. Location TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Williams, Recording Secretary

Attendees:

Angie Brown
Pam Herrington
Christi Hutchings
Tia Morris
Amanda Williams