The Staff Council meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm in the President’s Conference Room. The meeting was set up to provide a video conference feed to the Statesboro Conference Room and phone conference to Augusta campus.

Welcome
The meeting began with a welcome from Chair Angie Brown.

Approval of Minutes
Motion was made by Tabitha Ross to accept the minutes of the November meeting as presented. Christi Hutchings seconded the motion. With none opposed, the minutes were approved.

Member Updates
New hires, retirements, or any individuals who have left employment were noted and are listed below.

Jody Dellinger – new hire (IT)
Cheryl Tatum – new hire (Business Office)
Della Holt – left employment (Financial Aid)
Peggy Allen – left employment (Humanities)
Regina Jones – left employment (Public Safety)
John Keith – left employment (Admissions)
Houston Kirkland – left employment (Business Office)
Kerri Lyles – left employment (Business Office)
Ronald Mehelic – left employment (IT)
Julio Rodriguez – left employment (Food Service)
Massie Knight – retired (Business Office)
Colleen Beyer – left employment (ACE)

Treasurer’s Report
Treasurer Pamela Herrington gave the treasurer’s report. The current Staff Council balance is $103.39. The previous balance was $169.74. Cleared charges include: $25.00 for USG Staff Council dues, $23.87 for Holiday Luncheon supplies, $17.48 for postage. Pending charges include: $53.71 for Holiday Luncheon supplies.

Secret Pals
No updates this month. If you have a Secret Pal please have fun and enjoy.
Membership Benefits Flyer
No members from the committee were present to give an update.

Review of Holiday Luncheons
Helping Hands raised $120.20 this year. This is slightly down from last year. The money was given to a local nursing home to help with holiday gifts and spreading holiday cheer to members who do not have any family. Our expenses for supplies this year totaled $77.58.

Departmental News / Upcoming Events
- Employee Appreciation and Recognition
  - Swainsboro – Tuesday April 8, 2014 at 7:45AM in the RLB Dining Room
  - Augusta – Friday April 18, 2014 at 1:00 PM in the Washington Hall Towers
  - Statesboro – Friday, May 2 at 12:15 in the Atrium
- Honors Night
  - Swainsboro – Thursday April 24, 2014 in the LFG Auditorium
- Lion King at the Fox Theatre
  - Vision Series event. Saturday April 19, 2014 at 2:00 PM
  - Students tickets are $10
  - Faculty/Staff/Community tickets are $85
  - Students get first priority and Faculty/Staff/Community members are placed on a waiting list. Please register by April 16, 2014.
  - There are 55 seats available.
- Relay for Life Pageant
  - Statesboro: Saturday March 22, 2014

USG Staff Council
Chair Angie Brown attended the USG Staff Council meeting in February. These meetings are held quarterly and the next meeting will be in May. The Annual meeting will be October 1 & 2, 2014 (Wednesday & Thursday) at Albany State.

There are 31 USG institutions however not all are paid members of USG Staff Council. Each paid member institution is allowed 1 vote on any voting matters.

The link to the USG Staff Council website will be posted on the EGSC Staff Council webpage.

One item that was addressed during the USG Staff Council meeting was possible changes to the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). They discussed giving immediate family members (spouse and children) access to the program if the USG Employee does not intend to use the program. Any changes will be up and coming in the future.

In relation to this, Christi Hutchings brought up that USG Employees are paying extra fees that are not covered by TAP. Examples of these fees are parking permit fees, health clinic fees, etc. It was pointed out that some fees are automatically waived for USG Employees receiving TAP; however this does not cover all fees.
Chair Angie Brown plans to address this at the next USG Meeting. In order to do so, she needs information from employees who are paying any tuition or fee costs that TAP is not paying. If you or anyone you know is paying fees out of pocket please send that information to Chair Angie Brown along with the name of the school you are attending that is charging the fees.

Staff Issues

- Mail Service in Statesboro
  - The mailbox has been installed outside and the mail is running regularly. There is also a regular mail exchange between campuses by faculty members during the week.
  - Karen Murphree made a motion to close this item as resolved. Donna Freeman seconded the motion.

New Issues

- Staff Council fundraising for next year.
  - We spend about $100 a year between USG dues and holiday luncheon supplies. Therefore we need to think about way to raise money in the coming year.
  - We have asked for a stipend from the President for the Staff Council, but we do not know if it will be granted.
  - If you have any fund raising ideas please send those suggestion to Chair Angie Brown.

- Faculty/Staff Development Funds
  - The budget line for faculty/staff to access Development Funds has been removed.
  - The funds have been divided and placed into individual departmental budgets.
  - In the future any travel or development fund requests will be processed through your department.

- Email about new hires or changes in employment including retirements
  - In the past individual departments have informed others about new employees in their departments or retirements of personnel in their departments; however this does not always happen. We ask that if you notice that one of these events happens, that you remind your department head to send out notice to the other departments so that we will all be informed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

The next meeting will be Friday, April 11, 2014 at 2PM. Dr. Boehmer will attend this meeting for an “open question and answer session”.


Attendees:

**Swainsboro**
Angie Brown
Pamela Herrington
Tia Morris
Amanda Williams
Donna Freeman
Christi Hutchings
Rebecca Vincent
Tammy Durden

**Statesboro:**
Tabitha Ross
Luke Martin
Karen Murphree
Zoey Marsh
Michael Luzzi

**Augusta:**
Nick Kelch
Charlene Blankenship