



Proposal to Revise the Bylaws of the University Council

Authored by: University of Georgia Staff Council

Proposal: *The purpose of this proposal is to codify, streamline, and standardize University Council bylaws for Staff Council membership on University Council committees and membership in University Council by increasing the number of voting staff members.*

Rationale: University Council (UC) is charged with “establishing policies and enacting rules and regulations” that impact the University of Georgia (UGA) community. In September 2000, the University Council passed a motion to include the Staff Council President as a member of the Executive Committee of the University Council (2000-09-28-01). In 2006, the University Council passed a motion to include eight additional staff representatives as members of the University Council (2006.10.04) bringing the total number of staff representatives to nine. The inclusion of staff voices and perspectives in UGA’s shared governance structure is vitally important; however, a relatively small number of staff currently hold voting seats on this group that has the most direct say in shared governance.

For UC representation, each school or college at the university elects one representative for every 20 faculty members. Faculty represent approximately 30% of the university’s full-time workforce and hold 179 seats on a council of 223, or over 80%. Staff are currently allotted nine total voting representatives while representing over 70% of the total full-time work force with an untold number of part-time staff members. For a proportional representation perspective, it is easily seen how staff have minimal say in the workings of shared governance at the university.

The members of the Staff Council are asking for a modest increase in staff voting membership on UC in alignment with staff representation on committees. Meaning that the staff would have a single digit number increase on UC. This also future proofs the UC bylaws for handling staff voting privileges when new UC committees are established later.

Current Bylaws:

Part V – General Procedures

III. Election and Appointment Procedures

H. The Staff Council shall have nine representatives on the University Council. One of these, the Staff Council President, will be an ex officio voting member of the University Council, and the remaining eight shall be elected by the Staff Council. These staff elected to the University Council will serve three-year terms.

Revised Version:

Part V – General Procedures

III. Election and Appointment Procedures

H. ~~The Staff Council shall have nine representatives on the University Council.~~ Each Staff Council member who is a voting member of a University Council committee is also a voting member of the University Council. One of these, the Staff Council President, will be an ex officio voting member of

the University Council, and the remaining ~~eight~~ shall be elected by the Staff Council. These staff elected to the University Council will serve three-year terms. **The Staff Council shall always have no less than twelve voting representatives on the University Council.**

Proposed Version:

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