



Proposal to Revise the Bylaws and update the Statutes of the University Council

Authored by: University of Georgia Staff Council

Proposal: *The purpose of this proposal is to increase the number of voting staff members on University Council from nine to fourteen in alignment with current staff representation elected to serve on UC committees.*

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 is vitally important; however, a relatively small number of staff currently hold voting seats on the University Council.

The members of the Staff Council are requesting a revision to the University Council bylaws to bring staff voting membership on the University Council in alignment with elected staff representation on the University Council standing committees.

Per the University Council bylaws, staff representatives on both the council at-large and the standing committees are elected by the UGA Staff Council. Each elected staff representative shall serve three-year terms. [[University Council Bylaws, Part I, Sections: I, II, V, XII, XIII, XIV, XVI, XVII.](#)] The staff representatives elected to the University Council by the members of the Staff Council may be chosen staff university-wide [[Staff Council Bylaws, 3.2.5 University Council Representatives](#)], except for the Staff Council President who will serve as a voting ex officio member of the University Council and the University Council’s Executive Committee.

If this proposal passes the University Council and is approved by President Morehead, the UGA Staff Council will revise our bylaws concerning membership on the University Council to reflect the change. [[Staff Council Bylaws, 6.2.1 Membership to the University Council Committees](#)]

Current UC 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 UC 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.~~ The President of the Staff Council is considered a member of the University Council by virtue of their position. This grants them the ability to vote on matters that come before the council. The University Council's voting staff representatives are made up of all the staff members who have voting rights on the standing committees of the UC. These standing committee members are elected in accordance with the bylaws of the University Council. [\[University Council Bylaws I.\]](#) However, if the total number of staff representatives on the UC standing committees falls below 12, the Staff Council will hold a general election in accordance with its own bylaws to fill all 12 voting seats.

Proposed UC Bylaws:

Part V – General Procedures

III. Election and Appointment Procedures

H. The President of the Staff Council is considered a member of the University Council by virtue of their position. This grants them the ability to vote on matters that come before the council. The University Council's voting staff representatives are made up of all the staff members who have voting rights on the standing committees of the UC. These standing committee members are elected in accordance with the bylaws of the University Council. [\[University Council Bylaws I.\]](#) However, if the total number of staff representatives on the UC standing committees falls below 12, the Staff Council will hold a general election in accordance with its own bylaws to fill all 12 voting seats.