



Proposal to Revise the Bylaws 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](#)]. A standing rule has already passed the Staff Council that prohibits staff members from serving on more than one University Council committee.

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 14, the Staff Council will hold a general election in accordance with its own bylaws to fill any open 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 14, the Staff Council will hold a general election in accordance with its own bylaws to fill any open seats.

Proposal to Update the Statutes of the University Council

Proposal: *The purpose of this proposal is update the statutes of the University Council to reflect the changes to the Bylaws of the University Council Part V., Section III., H. – Election and Appointment Procedures – Staff Council.*

Rationale: If the proposal to update the University Council Bylaws Part V. Section III, H. passes before the University Council, the Statutes of the University Council will need to be updated to reflect the change.

Current UC Statutes:

Article XVII: The Staff Council

Section 3: Powers and Jurisdiction

The Staff Council shall participate in the process of University governance by advising the President and by recommending to and consulting with the University Council in the establishment of rules and regulations deemed necessary or proper for the promotion of the general welfare of the University. 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. [[University Council Bylaws, V. III.](#)] All actions of the Staff Council which impact on the operation of the University are subject to the approval of the President of the University.

Revised UC Statutes with updated UC Bylaws wording:

Article XVII: The Staff Council

Section 3: Powers and Jurisdiction

The Staff Council shall participate in the process of University governance by advising the President and by recommending to and consulting with the University Council in the establishment of rules and regulations deemed necessary or proper for the promotion of the general welfare of the University.

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Proposed UC Statutes with updated UC Bylaws wording:

Article XVII: The Staff Council

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[[[University Council Bylaws, V. III.](#)]] All actions of the Staff Council which impact on the operation of the University are subject to the approval of the President of the University.