

Address to University Council

9-25-19

My name is Marie Mize and I am the President of the UGA Staff Council. I have the privilege of representing over 7,000 staff members who work here at the University of Georgia.

We started our year with a teambuilding session led by the Training and Development Department. Maggie Denna and Joshua Warren helped us develop goals for the upcoming year and helped us learn how to work better as a team. We are using the suggestions from this session to help focus the council's operational objectives as we move forward.

This month we had the honor of hosting President Morehead, Alton Standifer, the Assistant to the President, and Juan Jarrett, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, at our September meeting. Thank you for an informative and honest discussion.

On September the 12th we had a very successful kickoff of our Staff Networking Program. The Staff Networking Program is designed to connect groups of UGA staff members across disciplines and divisions. This fall we have approx. 150 people in the program.

Moving forward this year we are we are eager to see the results/effects of both the Staff Competency Model and the Comprehensive Administrative Review. We are also very enthusiastic about the additional staff professional development opportunities that are going to be rolled out, and we were pleased to have the administration's support of these opportunities.

I know that I share with everyone in this room a concern about our rising healthcare costs and the budget cuts ordered by the Governor. We have a lot of work to do with resources that seem to be shrinking every day. We look forward to being a part of the discussions that will arise from these and other events in the coming year.

President Morehead, I want to let you know that the Staff Council is proud to be a part of your team and that we are motivated every day to provide the best educational experience for our students here at the University of Georgia.