

Staff Council Report to University Council, April 28, 2016

First, I would like express to the president the gratitude and excitement of the staff of UGA for the upcoming 2nd annual Staff Appreciation Day on May 25th. We are also grateful to the organizing committee's hard work to make sure this new tradition continues as well as it started.

Since my last report, we have had Vice President for Human Resources Juan Jarrett come to discuss the upcoming changes to the shared sick leave program, Provost Pam Whitten for one general question and answer session, and President Jere Morehead for another.

Our Needs and Concerns Committee is engaged in working with the SGA and Campus Architects to address the intense traffic problems at the intersection of River Rd. and Carlton St.

The Benefits and Classification Committee was tasked with working with HR to get the shared sick leave program expanded to include employees who are caregivers as well as ill or injured employees. That issue is being resolved by UGA's adoption of the USG policy.

We held a special meeting on March 17 to vote on this statement: The Staff Council of the University of Georgia joins Chancellor Hank Huckaby, President Jere Morehead, Franklin College Faculty Senate, the University Council, and the Student Government Association in requesting Governor Nathan Deal to please veto H.B. 859.

The motion carried, and the request was forwarded to the office of the governor.

Ongoing is our ad hoc committee's work with the provost's office and HR to develop and promote leadership training, mentoring, and career development of female staff at UGA. We hope this will parallel new efforts aimed at women faculty.

We are forming a committee to more deeply engage unit Staff Representative Groups and help those units still without representation to get going.

Our next meeting will be May 4th at 2:30 PM in MLC 207, when we will elect all officers and Executive Committee members, along with several University Council members.

Michael Lewis, Chair, Staff Council