

Staff Representative Group Meeting Minutes
College of Education
G23 Aderhold Hall
December 10, 2008
10:00 a.m.

Present: Bobbie Ray, Heather Bailey, Kay Bernales, Amanda Cole, Linda Dunbar, Annelie Klein, Pat McDonald, Andy Robison, Helen Rogers, Grace Thornton

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minutes

The minutes for the November 13, 2008 meeting were not available. They will be distributed by email at some future point.

2. Standing Committee Reports

Safety Committee (Kay Bernales)

Kay Bernales has completed the 9-week Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, and plans to share the training with the SRG Safety Committee.

With regard to the results of the Staff Survey, the committee has not yet completed the report to give to the dean.

Staff Awards (Heather Bailey)

A good space has been located for this year's Staff Awards: the Fireside Room at East Campus Village. We do not have to pay to use the space, but need to reserve it.

The idea was discussed to use a "people's choice" approach for selecting Staff Awards; i.e., allow COE staff to vote for the winner. Perhaps a committee could suggest three nominees, and then these could be put to a vote. Would require a change to the by-laws first. H. Rogers made a motion to change the by-laws to allow staff to vote; motion was seconded and passed.

Communications (Annelie Klein)

Lisa Conley (COE Business Office) would like to contribute to the newsletter. Amanda Cole plans to write regarding the Toys for Tots drive, the Dean's search, this year's Canned Food Drive, and the New Staff Orientation "welcome" events previously discussed by SRG. Toys for Tots pick-up day is November 15.

The College of Education collected 1300 lbs. for the food drive, and (although we did not win the football game with Georgia Tech) UGA did win the competition with Ga Tech to collect the most food.

3. Special Committees

By-Laws Committee (no report)

Guidance (Bobbie Ray):

Staff Lounge (Pat McDonald)

Exterminators will spray for insects once a week until insect problem is resolved. We still need a new glass plate for the microwave; it was suggested that a thrift store might have one.

Staff Orientation (Andy Robison) Nothing to report

4. ***Report from the Chair: (Bobbie Ray):***

Bobbie attended the Administrative Council Meeting, reports that we are almost guaranteed that no one will lose their job, and we will still get our raises.

5. ***Staff Council Meeting (Amanda Cole)***

Reported on the November meeting. Proposal was made to hold functions for staff retirees; staff would be assessed a \$50 one-time fee to fund these. TRSS is not going to change, and COLA is safe for now. Board of Regents proposed a \$100 fee increase for students. College wide pay raises are still in place for 2009 and no layoffs are planned. Open Enrollment was reopened due to the cost changes in the dental plan. There is a UGA freeze on hiring. Kathryn Chetney spoke re: the UGA Ombudsman Program; they serve as an independent, neutral resource for problems staff may encounter such as sexual harassment or discrimination. It is meant to be a "first stop" source for information, and they do not keep records of initial sessions. Their website is: <http://www.uga.edu/ombudsperson/contact.html>

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business. Meeting adjourned for holiday ornament exchange and holiday gathering.