

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

Present: Jacquee Rosumny, Amanda Cole, Heather Fancher, Becky Hendren, Helen Rogers, Sandy Smith, Cindy Williams, Rene Hammond, Melanie Smith, Bobbie Ray, Cathy Dickson

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minutes: July – Need to be read and approved/edited.

2. Standing Committee Reports:

Safety Committee: River's Crossing and Ramsey received new radios.

Staff Awards Committee: No report.

Communications Committee: No report.

3. Special Committees:

Staff Council Meeting: No one was able to make the meeting.

Report from the Chair (Jacquee Rosumny): Expressed her appreciation and Sandy's for all their support this past year and allowing them to serve as the Chair and Vice Chair. Also, expressed the positive attitude the Department Heads were showing towards SRG and the new direction it has taken.

Jacquee also discussed a letter sent out by Dean Horne as an apology to the Staff concerning seating arrangements at the Centennial Luncheon. It was not his intent to deliberately seat the staff to the back and give them low priority. (Please see his letter attached.)

Dean Horne had contacted me and made a request to attend the August 7 meeting.

Feedback on the presentation to the Department Heads on the SRG Membership: The department heads did not feel comfortable appointing someone to the committee. They felt it would be more detrimental to what we were trying to achieve. However, they will encourage their staff to participate. Jacquee felt that was a win for us, because now the department heads are aware of the situation and can now help support us. The Dean was supportive.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Elections held for the new Chair and Vice Chair for SRG by secret ballot. The new officers for SRG are: Bobby Ray (Chair) and Heather Fancher (Vice Chair) and Rene Hammond was appointed the SRG Secretary for the 2008-09 year. Jacquee Rosumny will serve as Ex-Officio for this term to help support the new SRG Chair as per the By-Laws.

3. Clarice Thompson suggested that the SRG minutes need more detail in them for the Department heads.

4. Once again, a reminder if anyone is looking for our minutes or any information on SRG, direct them to our website. A suggestion was made to publish our agenda right before the meeting each month to generate staff interest if they wish to attend.

Meeting adjourned at: 11:30 a.m.

Minutes taken by Sandy Smith and Jacquee Rosumny

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacquee Rosumny". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.



The University of Georgia

College of Education
Office of the Dean

Jacquee Rosumny,
Staff Representative Group
Ramsey Center
College of Education
The University of Georgia
CAMPUS

Hello Jacquee,

At yesterday's administrative cabinet meeting it was pointed out that there was concern expressed about the seating arrangements at our Friday 100th Anniversary Celebration – Centennial luncheon. Most faculty, alumni, and retirees were seated at departmental tables, but staff and custodians, faculty from other Colleges, and other attendees were offered open seating rather than assigned places. The intent was to have departmental faculty, retirees, and alumni together, and then allow all others to select who they would like to sit with during the luncheon. The open seating was perceived, though, as having lower priority than the assigned table seating, and was offensive to some people.

Please understand that there was no intention to convey that open seating was seen as less valued, or that any of our celebrants were less esteemed. Several seating plans were developed -- some with open seating tables throughout the room. Ultimately it was decided to keep the open seating tables altogether as we thought staff would prefer to sit in a group rather than be separated around the room.

It has also been pointed out that it would have been helpful to those toward the back of the room and those with poor eyesight to have had the speakers and presentations at the podium videoed and shown on the big screens during the course of the event. This would have enhanced everyone's experience at the luncheon. Please know that your comments and other observations will be discussed this week as the Centennial Planning Committee holds a debriefing about the luncheon. We definitely will learn a great deal from this event and how we can do better in the future.

As you know, it is my goal to create an environment of respect and dignity for all people in our College, and one in which we work across departments and programs to be a collaborative and cooperative group. I seek fulfilling a common goal of promoting an

excellent education for our students and positive, fulfilling experiences for our family of employees.

If the seating arrangements were perceived as less respectful of some of our family, I truly apologize for the occurring. Please convey my regrets to our staff and custodians. I am always open to suggestions and recommendations for helping all of us become more sensitive to the real or perceived issues that we experience in our College. Thank you again for your comments and for your help in this regard.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cindy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Arthur M. Horne, Ph.D.
Interim Dean