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Middle Georgia State University Staff Council  
Sanders, Karin Sandlin, Charles Smith, Michael Ste

Meeting #1 Williams

Room 2022, Eastman Campus

Friday, August 28, 2015

Mr. Tsavatewa introduced himself, and began talking about the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for MGA. The title of the QEP is "Knowledge at Work", and is modeled on experiential learning. The QEP is focused on providing opportunities across all disciplines for service learning. There will be opportunities for students both on campus and off campus, and multiple pathways to these opportunities will be provided. Mr. Tsavatewa then encouraged everyone to read the QEP and make themselves familiar with it in advance of the SAS OnSite Team visit September 2024.

Mr. Tsavatewa then presented a resolution to be signed by the Staff officers endorsing the QEP if the Council approved a motion to endorse it

Mr. Tsavatewa then opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Ben Mullis asked how the departments will set up internships. Mr. Tsavatewa responded that the QEP office will be working with departments to look at their specific needs and come up with a plan that fits the QEP and also works for the department. He also noted the internships would most likely be different depending upon the discipline.

Ms. Lisa Whitaker asked if this was mandatory for students, or simply encouraged. Mr. Tsavatewa stated that it is not mandatory for students to participate. He did state it is open to all students no matter what campus they are on.

Ms. Brenda Hogan asked if there were any additional fees associated with these internships. Mr. Tsavatewa answered no.

With there being no further questions, Mr. Tsavatewa thanked us for our time, and his presentation was concluded.

Mr. Stewart asked for a motion to endorse the QEP. Ms. Lisa Whitaker motioned to endorse the QEP, Mr. Ryan Tucker seconded. None opposed.

## New Business

Mr. Stewart then announced the task of populating Subcommittees of Staff Council. He passed around a worksheet and all committee members were assigned to at least one Subcommittee. Mr. Stewart then noted that the committees would meet at the conclusion of the meeting to decide upon a Chair and Recorder for each committee. He then stated that the Chairs of the Subcommittees would need to schedule a meeting of their respective committees before the next Staff Council meeting.

Mr. Stewart asked for a motion to approve the appointments to the Subcommittees. Ms. Amy Martin motioned, and Mr. Ben Mullis seconded. None opposed.

Mr. Stewart then moved on to the task of appointing members of Staff Council to serve on other institution wide committees.

Mr. Tyler Warren proposed that the Chair Elect of Staff Council serve on the Compliance Board, and the Chair of Staff Council to serve on the Foundation Board.

Ms. Brenda Hogan moved to approve those appointments. Ms. Karin Sandlin seconded. None opposed.

Mr. Stewart then mentioned he would need 10 staff members to populate the Student Conduct Board, and that representation was needed from all campuses.

Mr. Stewart then presented the issue that was brought to the Council of staff morale. He noted that this has been an issue on all campuses. Most likely because of the constant transition over the last several years. He asked the Council why we thought morale was low. One answer was salaries, another was breakdown of communication, another was commonality, and people still feel separated.

Ms. Brenda Hogan proposed a survey be conducted by the Council for staff to see why morale is low. Mr. Ben Mullis moved to refer that task to the Communication-~~Sub~~Committee, and Mr. Charles Smith seconded. None opposed.

Mr. Albert Abrams proposed that the Communications-~~Sub~~Committee work with HR Director, Dr. Lisa Burroughs to get the survey together.

Mr. Stewart then moved on to the budget for Staff Council. He stated we needed to send budget proposals for Staff Council to Ms. Pam Lockerman, and that those proposals would need to go to the Foundation by November.

Mr. Stewart then brought up the issue of Staff Recognition. He asked when would be the best time to conduct the recognition event, and the feedback was to be done in the Fall semester. Several ideas and questions were given, such as how we should nominate people, and what the criteria would be. This

The discussion of future meeting dates and locations was brought up. It was decided that the bylaws needed to be amended to allow more flexibility in the scheduling of Staff Council meetings. The Bylaws SubCommittee will take on this task.

It was then decided that the next meeting would be held on the Warner Robins Campus on Monday, October 5 at 1:00pm. Ms. Ann Williams graciously offered to get a meeting space for us on that campus.

#### **Announcements / Updates / Adjournment**

Mr. Ben Mullis announced that he would be doing a Staff Council Collection for the Library Archives.

Mr. Albert Abrams made a suggestion of creating a website to publish agendas and minutes of Staff Council. That task was given to the Communications Subcommittee

Hearing no further announcements, Mr. Stewart called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Jan Mimbs motioned to adjourn, and Ms. April Daniels seconded. None opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ms. Jennifer Jones, Staff Council Secretary