

Staff Council Meeting

Minutes 6/16/2023

Voting Members Attended: Mandy Douglas, Brandon Kight, Treva Johnson, Amber Hodges, Sheila Jacobs, Dr. Deborah Kittrell-Mikell, Ranceince Pollett, Charlene Blankenship, Diana Cochran, Danielle Calloway

Additional Staff Attended: Alex Smith, Dr. David Chevalier, Jada Armstrong, Christopher Jackson, Michael Wernon, Dana Wright

- I. **Call to Order:** 2:02 PM
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Charlene Blankenship made a motion to accept the March 24, 2023 meeting minutes. Diana Cochran seconded the motion and all in favor.
- III. **Committee Reports:**

Member Updates – Mandy Douglas

- i. **New Hires**
 - a. Hawley III, *Women's Head Softball Coach*
 - b. Tabitha Huddleston, *Library Associate*
 - c. Daniel Moxley, *PT Police Officer*
 - d. Sheldon DeMills, *Director of Housing*
 - e. Christopher Jackson, *Technology Support Specialist*
 - f. George Frix, *PT Police Officer*
 - g. Courtney Patterson, *Chief of Staff/Legal Counsel*
 - h. Casey Fountain, *Director of Institutional Advancement*
 - i. Tada'Sha Green, *Accounting Tech II*
 - j. Kewonica McBride, *Student Success Coach – Statesboro*
- ii. **Promotions**
 - a. Jennifer Fields, *Director of Admissions*
 - b. Theo Howard, *Athletic Director*
 - c. Jason Mock, *Head Baseball Coach*
 - d. Stephanie Royals, *Director of Counseling and Disabilities Services*
- iii. **Retirements**
 - a. Sheila Wentz, *Director of Financial Accounting*
 - b. Mary Smith, *Chief of Staff/Legal Counsel*
 - c. Eric Wruck, *Professor*

IV. Treasurer Report – Mandy Douglas

- i. Agency Account-\$0
- ii. Foundation Account-\$4,290.46
 - a. \$105.30 was spent on the Secret Pal reveal.
 - b. No known donations received.

V. Special Events Committee – Mandy Douglas

- i. Secret Pal
 - a. Secret Pal for the 2023-2024 academic year is expected to start in August.
- ii. Sunshine Club

- a. Mandy has various cards available in her office for special occasions, celebrations, condolences, etc.
- iii. Committee of Elections
 - a. Da'Mon Andrews was not present, so the meeting continued to old business.

VI. **Old Business**

- i. The council is still planning professional development/teambuilding ideas for this year's faculty/staff workshop. Dana Wright will speak with President Schechter and Diana Cochran will speak with Provost Whelan about possible professional development options. Anyone with recommendations can email Mandy Douglas.

VII. **New Business**

- i. Mandy Douglas asked the Council if it would like to release any voting members from his or her role and appointment another staff member instead. Diana made a motion to release Da'Mon Andrews and appoint Casey Fountain. Brandon Kight seconded the motion. Casey's acceptance is currently pending. Charlene Blankenship suggested that Tayla Brown be included for the Augusta campus as a non-voting member of the Council.
- ii. Elections for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer resulted in the following:
 - a. *Chair* – **Mandy Douglas**
Brandon Kight made a motion to nominate Mandy for the role, and Diana Cochran seconded. All in favor.
 - b. *Vice Chair* – **Brandon Kight**
Mandy Douglas made a motion to nominate Brandon for the role, and Diana Cochran seconded. All in favor.
 - c. *Secretary* – **Amber Hodges**
Diana Cochran made a motion to nominate Amber for the role, and Amber Hodges seconded. All in favor.
 - d. *Treasurer* – **Jada Armstrong**
Treva Johnson made a motion to nominate Jada for the role, and Danielle Calloway seconded. All in favor.
- iii. Elections for Committee Chairs resulted in the following:
 - a. *Spirit Committee* – **Sheila Jacobs**
Mandy Douglas made a motion to nominate Sheila for the role, and Diana Cochran seconded.
 - b. *Sunshine Club* – **Mandy Douglas**
Brandon Kight made a motion to nominate Mandy for the role, and Amber Hodges seconded.
 - c. *Committee of Elections* – **Amber Hodges**
Mandy Douglas made a motion to nominate Amber for the role, and Diana Cochran seconded.
- iv. Holiday Luncheons
 - a. Tentative dates for the Holiday Luncheons are as follows:

1. Augusta – Monday, November 27th
2. Swainsboro – Friday, December 1st
3. Statesboro – Monday, December 4th
- b. Charlene Blankenship and Tayla Brown will work on reserving space on Augusta’s campus for the luncheon.
- c. Diana Cochran made a motion for the Bobcat Pantry to be the supported program during the Holiday Luncheons, and Sheila Jacobs seconded.
- v. USG Staff Council Elections
 - a. Voting has concluded for the election of Officers for the USG. The Staff Council Executive Committee (2023-2024), whose membership (as of July 1, 2023) shall be as follows:
 1. Chair – Scott Taylor, Georgia Southern University
 2. Chair-Elect – Jessie McGinty, Georgia Gwinnett College
 3. Secretary – Sean Evett, University of North Georgia
 4. Treasurer – Jessica Gandy, ABAC
 5. Past Chair – Jasper Stewart, Georgia Southern University
- vi. The USG Staff Council Meeting was held on May 19, 2023, and the Chancellor of Academic Affairs spoke on the freedom of academic speech.

VIII. Announcements

- i. Mandy Douglas will send out the USG Staff Council meeting minutes to EGSC’s Staff Council once they are made available.
- ii. Important Upcoming Dates:
 - a. June 19, 2023 – Juneteenth (all campuses will be closed)
 - b. June 21, 2023 – Statesboro Orientation
 - c. June 23, 2023 – Augusta Orientation
 - d. July 4, 2023 – Independence Day (all campuses will be closed)
 - e. July 6, 2023 – One and Done (Augusta Campus)
 - f. July 10, 2023 – Swainsboro Orientation
 - g. July 17, 2023 – Swainsboro Orientation
 - h. July 21, 2023 – Final Exams begin.
 - i. July 23, 2023 – Augusta Orientation
 - j. July 28, 2023 – Augusta Orientation
 - k. August 14, 2023 – Swainsboro and Statesboro Fall classes begin.
 - l. August 16, 2023 – Augusta classes begin.
 - m. August 22, 2023 – Convocation and Kickback
- iii. Tentative Dates for the Faculty and Staff Workshop are August 3rd and 4th.
- iv. Mandy Douglas proposed that EGSC possibly host the annual USG Staff Council meeting to bring more attention to the institution. She would, first, need the approval of the President and Provost before moving forward with the idea.

IV. Adjournment

Mandy Douglas made a motion to adjourn at 2:33 PM, and Diana Cochran seconded.