

## **Middle Georgia State University Staff Council**

Meeting 8 AY 2021/2022

Friday, March 4, 2022 at 10:00 am

### **Online Meeting – Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** Henry Whitfield, Jed Edge, Rose Brown, Cynthia Hopper, Terri Reckart, Noha El-Jeaid, Tammy Coody, Abigail Ledezma, Thomasia Jefferson, Teresa Lorick, Tabitha Chapman, Samantha Boswell, Tricia Purser, Keisha Fields, April Renfro-Warren, Robin Douglas, Tiffany Leslie, Joy Campbell, Pamela Booker, Heather McIntosh,

**Absent:** Victor Hall, Ember Bishop-Bentley, Julie Holloway, Ashley Thompson

**Excused:** Jan Mimbs

**Guest:** Kimberly Leinberger, Steven Stefano, Trey Crisp, Shanoya Cordew, Christopher Blake, Amanda Howie

### **Call to Order**

Jed Edge called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Jed Edge asked for approval of the agenda. There was a motion to approve by Henry Whitfield and a second by Rose Brown.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Jed Edge asked for approval of the minutes. There was a motion to approve by Henry Whitfield and a second by Teresa Lorick.

## **Guest Speaker**

Trey Crisp delivered a presentation on the landscaping and exterior facilities found on our MGA campuses. The presentation included an in-depth look at MGA's Waddell Barnes Botanical Garden. Trey Crisp stated that Dr. Waddell Barnes, a supporter of MGA, and an avid horticulturalist, led the effort to transform the school's exterior landscape into a lush garden. In 2003, the Board of Regents designated Macon State's campus as the Waddell Barnes Botanical Garden, in an effort to honor Dr. Barne's vision. Additionally, MGA is designated as a Tree Campus USA Institution and is also a Long-leaf Pin Restoration Site. Trey Crisp stated that our gardens have progressed throughout the years, evolving due to storms and various development and restoration initiatives. Trey Crisp spent much time describing in detail the various gardens and plantings found throughout our MGA campuses. He also spent time explaining the vision in working towards the master plan for our various campuses. Trey Crisp further explained the history of the Longleaf Pine along with the reasonings behind efforts to restore the much-needed natural resource. Trey Crisp closed by detailing the future plans and opportunities for those wishing to participate in the landscaping process, along with various Arbor Day activities.

## **Old Business**

Old business was not discussed in the meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Committee Reports**

**Executive Board:** There were no formal announcements from the executive board.

**Nominations Committee:** Henry Whitfield delivered the report for the nominations committee. Henry stated the committee had met, and that beginning April 1, 2022, Keisha Fields would be assuming the role as chair. He stated they would be moving forward with the nominations process as planned and as written in the bylaws.

**Bylaws/Policy Committee:** Tiffany Leslie delivered the report for the bylaws/policy committee. Tiffany stated that so far only one change had been made to the bylaws this year. She stated that they are looking at adding a title page, table of contents, as well as an addendum page. She stated that they would be keeping track of that information by using our historical settings that are available in TEAMS.

**Professional Development:** There were no formal announcements from the professional development committee.

**Staff Recognition Committee:** Teresa Lorick delivered the report for the staff recognition committee. Teresa stated that the staff recognition committee were currently accepting nominations for the three staff awards. She stated that they currently have no nominations for the champion award, 2 nominations for the service excellence award, and 3 for the unsung hero award. She stated that they would be accepting nominations for the awards through May 1, 2022, and that additional information regarding eligibility, the nominations process, and the selection of winners is made available on the council's webpage.

**Communications Committee:** There were no formal announcements from the communications committee.

### **Questions/Announcements**

- 1) A question was proposed to the staff council for having a jeans day on Fridays. An outline has been generated to be sent to the president as a recommendation. Various limitations were discussed. No questions were received. A rollcall vote was taken, with all council members present voting in favor of forwarding the recommendation to Dr. Blake.
- 2) A question was presented asking for any information that may be known relating to the possible pay increase. Information was relayed from council members explaining how one may follow the legislative process regarding the increase, as well as the school's intentions of implementing the increase should it be approved.
- 3) Jed Edge announced the next council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, April 8, 2022, via Teams.

