

Middle Georgia State University Staff Council

Meeting 4 AY 2022/2023

Friday, November 11, 2022 at 9:30 A.M.

Online Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Present: Pamela Booker, Carla Higgs, Keisha Fields, Julie D. Holloway, Abigail Ledezma, Tammy Coody, April Renfroe-Warren, Blake Harrison, Drew McIntosh, Imelda Salinas, Jed Edge, Teresa Lorick, Tricia Purser, Charles Richardson, Ember Bishop Bentley, Noha El-Jeaid, Deniece Bausley, Wanda Green

Guests: President Christopher Blake, Jennifer Brannon

Absent: Rose Brown

Excused: Cynthia Hopper, Nixivette Chavez Gonzalez

Call to Order:

Keisha Fields called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda:

Keisha Fields asked for approval of the agenda. There was a motion to approve by Charles Richardson and a second by April Renfroe-Warren. There were no oppositions.

Approval of Minutes:

- Chancellor 360 Evaluation – Dr. Blake expressed his appreciation for staff members involved in this process. He explained that Chancellor Perdue was happy with the direction of Middle Georgia State University.
- Budget Proposals – Last year's decline in enrollment brought on budget cuts from the USG of \$2.8 million. Dr. Blake expressed his appreciation for Ms. Amanda Funches and her team for accommodating this budget cut without the implementation of layoffs.
- Amanda Funches will be the next Vice President for Finance, Business & Operations. She will be transitioning to this role as of January 1, 2023.
- Brunch On Us – This event will be shifting to January. There will be communication regarding the event dates and details in the weeks that follow.
- Flexible Work Arrangement from December 16th through January 2nd – This arrangement allows for selective building closures and significant savings.

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Jennifer Brannon mentioned and/or reported the following:

- Middle Georgia State University hired Athletic Staffing and Consultants (ASC) to provide an analysis as to whether our athletic program should consider membership affiliation with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) at the division level two. They've identified the following opportunities and challenges.

Opportunities:

- This shift would aligning MGA's athletic programs to the level of other USG institutions within our sector.
- It would decrease student athlete's geographic footprint. It would reduce MGA's average one way travel time nearly in half. This would decrease travel costs and travel time, meaning less time away from classrooms.
- This would allow MGA to compete with more like minded public institutions and develop more natural in state rivalries to increase engagement and participation.
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Keisha Fields mentioned and/or reported the following:

- Two committees were developed for the holiday decorations. Our Macon Campus team is composed of Abigail Ledezma, Drew McIntosh, and Nixi Chavez. The Cochran Campus team is composed of Tammy Coody and Noha El-Jeaid. She mentioned that there were IT students who would like to help with the Macon Campus decorations by utilizing Raspberry Pi, a program that allows us to make the lights blink to music.
- Reminders for Walking Wednesday, Purple Thursdays, and Jean Fridays
- She reminded committees to schedule their meetings prior to each Staff Council meeting

Keisha Fields expressed gratitude to the staff members for their service and the service of their loved ones. She then opened the floor for comments and questions.

- April Renfroe Warren shared an event taking place on the Cochran Campus. The theatre department collaborated with veteran students, faculty, and community members to develop a play called "War on Words." The play will be at 6 PM in Russell Hall Auditorium. The event is open to all.

Next Meeting: The next Staff Council Meeting is set for December 9 @ 9:30 AM via TEAMS.

Adjournment: Keisha Fields asked for approval to adjourn the meeting. There was a motion to approve by Tammy Coody and a second by Deniece Bausley. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes Submitted By: