

USG Staff Council Meeting Minutes August 12, 2020

Meeting began at 10:05am

Roll call

• Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	No
• Albany State University	No
• Augusta University	Yes
• Bainbridge State College	Yes
• Clayton State University	No
• College of Coastal Georgia	No
• Columbus State university	No
• Dalton State College	No
• East Georgia State College	No
• Fort Valley State University	No
• Georgia College & State University	No
• Georgia Gwinnett College	No
• Georgia Highlands College	No
• Georgia Institute of Technology	Yes
• Georgia Southern University	Yes
• Georgia Southwestern State University	No
• Georgia State University	No
• Gordon State College	Yes
• Kennesaw State University	Yes
• Middle Georgia State University	No
• Savannah State University	No
• South Georgia State College	No
• University System of Georgia	Yes
• University of Georgia	Yes
• University of North Georgia	No
• University of West Georgia	Yes
• Valdosta State University	Yes
26 total participants on the call	

Order of Business

1. Call to Order – Yvonne Landers called the meeting to order at 10:05am
2. Minutes of May 20, 2020 meeting – Yvonne Landers
 - a. Approved by a simple majority of voting delegates.

3. USG update – Dr. Juanita Hicks

- a. Dr. Hicks gave an update on the Healthcare options and costs for the upcoming year.
- b. She met with the board recently and provided them with the recommendations for the upcoming health plan options/costs. The plan was approved by the board and communications will be sent via email to the institutions and disseminated to employees from there.
- c. There are no changes to the plans or premium costs for individual, couple, or couple with one child plans. There is a small increase in premium for the family plan to bring it in line with the others. Overall, the plan has performed well and system worked diligently with vendors to secure the best plan and rates.
- d. The tobacco and working spouse surcharges will remain in place and the same.
- e. There will be some expanded options this year including a new vendor called Accolade. This vendor will offer options to Anthem customers.
 - i. Open enrollment for this year will be expanded and will take place from October 21 to November 6, 2020.
- f. Due to covid-19, there will be a system-wide virtual benefits fair which will take place between October 19 to 23, 2020.
- g. The wellness credit of \$100 will be continued for all employees

4. Financial Report – Jasper Stewart

- a. Balance in account: \$4,732.26 – no change since May 20, 2020

5. President's report – Yvonne Landers

- a. Yvonne announced the members of the USGSC 2020-2021 Executive Board and welcomed them and thanked them for their service this year, particularly under the circumstances.
- b. Yvonne indicated that from this point forward, Farrah Williams from the system office will be on the agenda to give updates on Wellness programs and events.

6. Old Business

- a. Yvonne presented a PowerPoint that Farrah Williams created discussing all the updates to the USG Wellness programs and benefits. New challenges for the upcoming year begin on August 17, 2020. Yvonne also shared links to a number of useful wellness resources below.
 - i. USG Well-being Platform access for employees OneUSG
 1. <https://oneusgconnect.usg.edu/>
 - ii. USG Well-being Platform access for spouses
 1. ourwellbeing.usg.edu
 - iii. KEPRO – Employee Assistance Program
 1. <http://www.eaphelplink.com/> - Company Code: USGcares
 - iv. USG Well-being external website
 1. <https://www.usg.edu/well-being/>

- v. USG Well-being events website
 - 1. <https://www.usg.edu/well-being/events>

- vi. Virgin Pulse Resources for anyone
 - 1. <https://yourhomebase.virginpulse.com/coronavirus>

- vii. USG Benefits Coronavirus resources
 - 1. <https://www.usg.edu/hr/benefits/coronavirus>

If you are interested in inviting Stephany Sherry to any events, please send me an email:
Farrah.williams@usg.edu

- b. Georgia Employee Development Center – David Brown (GA Tech)
 - a. David indicated that there hasn't been much movement on this due to the covid-19 situation and the return to school plans. Once they launch this at GA Tech they will submit a report to the USGSC so other institutions can follow the model. The plan for the center is to offer assistance to staff with professional development opportunities to reduce attrition. GA Tech will conduct a needs assessment with their staff to see what needs are most important and develop a pilot program.
 - c. Fort Valley is schedule to host the virtual Annual Conference set for October 2020. However, Yvonne has been unable to reach them to see what the plan is. She will continue trying or we will determine an alternate option.

7. New Business

- a. UGA offered its assistance in developing the annual conference to Fort Valley State University. This will be taken under advisement as necessary.
- b. UGA also reported that there are many concerns about staff/faculty/student safety as a result of the return to work plan. Both the University and Staff Councils at UGA are meeting to address fears of returning to campus and investigating options such as teleworking or doing a hybrid of campus and teleworking.

Institution Reports – No reports

Meeting adjourned 10:35am