

UGARA Council Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2016

Attendance: Simon Aderibigbe, Tommy Altman, Jim Cobb, D. Cofer, Lindsey Copus, Laura Dowd, Mark Eason, Tom Eaton, Freda Scott Giles, Marcus Jennings, Paul Kurtz, Nancy McDuff, Lacy Wilhoit.

Pres. Eason called the meeting to order at 10:32 A.M. He distributed the agenda and minutes to those who needed copies. He also distributed an updated membership directory. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's report: Tommy Altman reported that our balance is the same as last month's (\$14,975.61). He requested that we get an invoice from the Institute of Gerontology.

Benefits: Travis Jackson was absent. Nancy McDuff submitted a written report that provided an update on retiree benefits:

There are no minutes posted from the September 14th meeting of the BOR and the next meeting will be on October 12th.

From the website of UGA and BOR:

Open enrollment for 2017 benefits is October 31-November 11 and requires no action if change is not desired for those retirees who are pre-Medicare. The four healthcare plans will remain the USG employer subsidy will be the same for each plan. Premiums are increasing between 0%-8%. USG is making the final step in moving to the defined contribution pricing model for healthcare premiums.

For retirees who are 65 or older and on the Aon Exchange Healthcare Plans for 2017, the system will continue to contribute \$2,736 annually to a health Reimbursement Account. Aon has projected plan premiums may increase 1%-7%. No reenrollment is needed if a retiree wishes to make no changes in their prior year coverage in AON exchange plan. Health. There is no deadline date for filing claims and unused subsidies will roll over from 2016 to 2017.

Nancy reported at the meeting that benefits information sessions will be held in Masters Hall (Georgia Center) on October 17 from 11:00 A.M.-noon and 1:00-2:00 P.M. and October 28 at the same times.

The question was asked as to whether there would be a retirement resource center this fall. The response was that we just have our advisors with AON. There was some discussion about the efficacy of not having a resource center. Some thought that it is still needed, even if on a smaller scale. Nancy will send an email to Travis to confirm our understanding.

The Communications Committee had no report. Marcus will meet with Paul concerning items of interest to the committee.

Lindsey introduced Lacy Wilhoit from the Office of Special Events who will represent that office at our meetings from now on. The Council expressed appreciation and well wishes to Lindsey.

Old Business:

Mark Eason shared a message he received from Mary Ann Johnson concerning the retiree survey. The Institute of Gerontology extended the return date for the retiree surveys to October 14. We will receive another update after that date. About 180 surveys were returned as of September 30 and Dr. Johnson estimates that at least 200-250 surveys will be returned, which would be an over 40% return rate (250/600 surveys). The Institute received nearly 20 emails and calls about the survey for clarification on some questions. Her feedback indicates that the majority of individuals were pleased to participate in the survey.

Jim Cobb and Tom Eaton drafted a policy statement to be added to our website. After some discussion, the statement was revised to read:

In the interest of assuring that content appearing on the UGARA website and Facebook page is legitimate and germane to the interests and concerns of UGA retirees, the UGARA Council has restricted future postings to reports on UGARA activities, information provided by the USG Benefits office, and appropriate announcements from the University of Georgia.

Paul Kurtz moved that the statement be added to our website and Nancy McDuff seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Lindsey Copus noted that we need to change to the new University logo on our website.

The need for a keynote speaker for the New Retirees Reception was discussed. Some suggested speakers include Interim Chancellor Steve Rigley, Jeff Ezell the Teachers Retirement System, and Eve Anthony from the Athens Area Council on Aging. Lindsey stated that we could table the discussion to next month. Mark stated that we should make a firm decision then to maximize speaker availability. Lindsey suggested we might think about UGA retirees active in the community. Paul supported that suggestion. One name that was suggested was Hugh Ruppensburg. Mark will send a reminder to bring more names to the next meeting, as well as a list of recent retirees. We will identify the top two choices. The reception will be held on April 25, 2017 in the Magnolia Room (Georgia Center).

New Business:

Parking Services is policing the parking lot; Marcus distributed visitors passes and asked us to retain and use them for meetings.

The next meeting will be held on November 14 at 10:30 A.M. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Freda Scott Giles, Secretary