UGARA Council Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Room 315 New College


The meeting was called to order by President Tom Landrum at 11:00 a.m.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, the minutes of the March 8, 2018 meeting were approved.

The Treasurer reported that there has been no change in balance of the treasury ($12,534.01). Tom Landrum reported that the UGARA bank account will remain in the Foundation, but under the heading of Human Resources rather than Alumni.

Travis Jackson reported on Benefits. He reported that the information about the on-going dispute between Blue Cross Blue Shield and Piedmont Healthcare has been placed on the UGARA web page. Additional information pertaining to persons who retire before the age of 65 due to a disability (and hence become eligible for Medicare) will be added. Jim Cobb reported that there have been numerous inquiries regarding this dispute on the UGARA Facebook page. Travis Jackson advised that persons making such inquiries be referred to UGA Human Resources Department.

It was also reported that S.B. 293 (pertaining to contributions to TRS for retirees rehired) and H.B. 903 (proposing the elimination of the automatic cost of living adjustment for retirees hired after July 1, 1993) were not passed by the General Assembly.

Mark Eason provided copies of the Minutes of the USG Retiree Meeting Agenda for April 6, 2018.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Marilyn Huff-Waller, Nancy McDuff, and Tom Landrum, recommended Mr. Floyd Downer to fill the unexpired term of an UGARA Council member who resigned. After some discussion regarding whether such appointment should be for a full 3 year term or for the 2 year unexpired term, upon motion (Henry Hibbs) duly seconded (McDuff), the Council voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Downer to fill the unexpired 2 year term.

The Nominating Committee also recommended to elect Dr. Tom Jackson, Dr. Hugh Ruppersburg, and Dr. Anne Sweeney to serve 3 year terms on the Council to replace Tom Landrum, Paul Kurtz, and Mark Eason whose terms expire at the end of this year. Upon motion duly made (Eaton) and seconded (Kurtz), the Council unanimously approved all three.

The Nominating Committee recommended that the Officers for next year be as follows: President—Nancy McDuff; Vice-President and President-elect—Henry Hibbs; Secretary—Marilyn Huff-Waller; and Treasurer—Tom Eaton. Upon motion duly made (Kurtz) and seconded (Cobb), this slate of officers was approved by acclamation.
It was noted that the Council Directory will need to be updated to reflect the changes in membership, officers, and administrative support staff. Updates to the Directory will be made in May 2018.

David Matthews-Morgan reviewed the changes and updates made to the UGARA web page over the past year. Additional updates will include adding the minutes of recent Council meetings, new information on Medicare eligibility for pre-age 65 retirees who retire due to disabilities, and a picture of President Tom Landrum.

Lacy Wilhoit reviewed plans for the April 26, 2018 Reception for New Retirees.

The Council expressed its appreciation to Tom Landrum, Mark Eason, and Paul Kurtz for their three years of service.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Eaton