

**Staff Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 17, 2007
Room 274**

The Bainbridge College Staff Council was called to order by Dean Whaley, former chairman, at 10:31 a.m.

Whaley began by explaining Connie Snyder's presence in light of the fact that the Staff Council had been informed that staff with faculty status could no longer be a Staff Council member. However, he noted that any faculty member is always welcome at our meetings.

Dean Whaley gave the floor to Dr. Wilkerson who gave updates on several projects. He explained that the Kirbo Center has had some set backs, but at least they are still working on it. He estimated the building to be near completion by the spring. He informed us that the new road by Tech Studies is finished. Bainbridge College will be using the annex behind the mall for instructional programs in criminal justice and early childhood care with Albany State, and business administration with Georgia Southwestern. It will be called the BC Baccalaureate Center. We will only have to pay \$1 per year rental, so that is quite a deal. Plant is renovating it now.

Dr. Wilkerson also explained that he met with the new Executive Council and gave them ideas about trying to grow participation with the Staff Council. He reminded us that the issue with faculty status and staff has been resolved, based upon BOR policies.

He then asked Connie Snyder what she proposed our enrollment will be for Fall 2007. According to Ms. Snyder, she anticipates enrollment to be close to 3,000, with Blakely enrolling 700. She did mention that applications are down a little bit, so Admissions has sent out postcards to spring students who have not pre-registered yet. Currently 1,000 have registered for fall. She noted that when the economy is good, enrollment goes down. Also gas prices might have an effect on enrollment. We do offer out-of-state tuition fees waived in three counties: Gadsden County, Florida; Henry County, Alabama; and Houston County, Alabama. But a student must be enrolled in at least one class in Blakely to qualify.

Dr. Wilkerson then mentioned we hope to have funding for the LPN program in Blakely in 2008. We are currently working on BOR and SACS to approve transfer programs in Blakely.

Dean Whaley then read the minutes from our last meeting (June 6, 2007). A motion was made by Scott Dunn, with a second by Marcia McRae, and the minutes were approved.

Dean Whaley then introduced the new Executive Council Committee:
Chairman, Rich Messersmith; Vice-Chair, Kim Foister; Parliamentarian, Spencer Stewart; Secretary, Patty Eenigenburg; At-large, Dean Whaley.

Dean Whaley then turned the meeting over to Rich Messersmith, who thanked the previous Executive Council for their service and the Staff Council for voting for the new Executive Council, giving them an opportunity to serve.

Old Business concerned the Conflict Resolution. We had a quorum, so Messersmith invited Connie Snyder to explain changes in the document. After a short discussion, Scott Dunn moved to accept the Conflict Resolution with its changes, and Beverly Widener seconded the motion. The vote carried and the new Conflict Resolution passed!

Rich Messersmith brought up several issues with New Business:

1. He introduced the new Staff Development Committee: A.J. Cantley, Ruby Barlow, and Christina Jackson, who had served in the previous year, and Beverly Widener and Kay Owens, who joined the committee this year.

Messersmith also encouraged the Staff Council to use the \$15,000 Staff Development money for classes, conferences, workshops, etc. or we may lose it in the future. He proposed that we might even want to request an increase in this budget.

2. With the changes in our Bylaws, we need new committee. Chandra Anderson-Casteel has agreed to continue on the committee. We are awaiting two others' responses. We would like to have a presentation at the next meeting.

3. The Executive Council is creating a questionnaire for staff. The Council wants to know what they can do for the staff and what will help them. The questionnaire will be emailed to staff.

At a later meeting the Executive Council will talk with the Staff Council about some topics Dr. Wilkerson discussed with them.

Rich Messersmith then asked if there was any other new business.

Scott Dunn reported that Dr. Wilkerson had charged a web review committee to update our website. If we have any ideas, we can send them to S. Dunn. We can send websites we really like or hate to give them ideas.

B. Snipes requested if anyone has her green tablecloth to return it to her.

Neil Griffin is working on a webcast to connect with Blakely staff. They were not available today.

Scott Dunn moved to adjourn and Kim Foister seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.