

John Medlock – Georgia State University
Staff Council Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes: April 23, 2013

Attending: David Caudill, Kevin Chappell, Chris Connelly, MaryAnne Gaunt, Charles Gilbreath, Cheryl Jester-George, John Medlock, Kimberly Moore, Derrick Morse, Stephen Rosner, Jowanna Tillman, Susan Vogtner, Anita Webb, Shelly-Ann Williams, Michael Wyatt

The Staff Council Executive Committee held a special meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2013, to discuss the university's call for proposals for the \$1.7 M FY14 budget surplus. Proposals are due to Edgar Torbert by May 7.

Council chair Chris Connelly distributed several proposals that had been previously discussed by the Board of Officers, which included free or discounted Recreation Center memberships, parking, MARTA cards, or food plans. The group debated the pros and cons of each of the proposals.

One issue that was raised about each proposal was its relative impact. The Rec Center proposal, for example, had been previously discussed in Faculty Affairs, and may be easy to move forward--but not all employees would take advantage of this benefit. The same may be true for differing reasons for all of the proposals. Members expressed a desire to make sure that lower-income employees in particular benefit from any proposed plans as well.

As a means of addressing these concerns, the committee agreed to also propose offering employees a choice among the different discounts/benefits. Admittedly, this could create some new work for whichever office had to administer this process.

The committee also discussed the best method for seeking feedback from the larger Staff Council and beyond for specific proposals or other ideas. There was agreement that the short time frame might not allow the use of a survey or some other more systematic means of consulting with constituents. This may need to be done informally by committee members in their individual areas.

Ann Claycombe and Shelly-Ann Williams agreed to refine the current proposal to include an employee-choice option.

Among additional ideas discussed at the meeting, the only other to gain support was a staff training and development grant program that could be administered by the Staff Council. John Medlock offered to develop a proposal based on the College of Arts and Sciences model.

Chris reminded the group that the committee and the council as a whole would be piloting use of the Basecamp project management tool this year. He asked members to use the tool as a means of developing these proposals.