

UGA School of Law
Staff Representative Group
September 17, 2015 minutes

Present: Marie Mize, Tina Whitehair, Robin Jennings, Tiffany Sargent, Shawn Lanphere, Leslie Grove, Deb Baker

Guest: Dean Bo Rutledge

Agenda

Alternatives for the Holiday Party
Merit Raises for FY2016
Staff Development
TAP for Online Courses

Old Business:

It was decided that the August meeting would be held online, through email. Everyone agreed.

Topics discussed were the edits to the By Laws, the Emma Terrell Award and the committee for the award.

A list of all past winners was circulated to the Council. It was decided that Deb, Tina and Brad would be on the committee. We still need one person from the staff council and one from the staff at large. Shawn nominated Susan Hanson to serve from the council and Jason Tubinis from the staff at large.

The Emma Terrell Award page was set up, tested, approved, and distributed to the law school.

New Business:

The funds spent on the Holiday Party were discussed. Ideas about an alternative means to celebrate were offered. The Holiday Party is the one event where the Law School Community comes together, it cannot be done away with. "If it isn't broken, don't fix it."

Perhaps only change the tradition, not do away with it. We have to keep some kind of big get together. Once a month compared to once a year? Quarterly even?

The Faculty Sponsored spring event of Whine and Cheese was greatly enjoyed, perhaps make it a continued event.

Maybe a Coffee get together, just coffee.

Distributing the Years of Service Pins alternatives: Call out the names, do not have the people come up individually and pick up the pins. Maintain the special attention to retirees and those with 30 plus years.

Other Business:

The BOR approved one half of one percent raise for us last year. We got five percent. North Georgia only got the one half percent. Kennesaw got 1%. We were quite fortunate. This coming year we are going to need to make some noise about the percentage. We cannot settle for less than 2%.

USG is asking about Staff Improvements; i.e., courses, webinars, classes. We, here at the Law School, are doing well. We have lynda.com through our MyID, the Law Library offers Lunch and Learns.

TAP – there have been no changes in the system since the 90's. The only pay for classroom attendance. They pay only \$300.00 toward a class, the online classes cost as much as \$1,000.00. Most of them charge high fees, some of the fees even go over the \$300.00 class cost. TAPS should be all inclusive, cover the cost of the class and the fees.

It needs to be updated for the current times. It also needs to be viewed unilaterally, by every state school. Every unit interrupts TAPs a different way. It has no rules on who distributes the funds.

More people would attend classes and pursue professional development if TAPs was more open and understood.

The Emma Terrell Award is on schedule and set to go live tomorrow, September 18, 2015.

All meeting minutes need to be archived. Check to see if you have any old copies of minutes, whether electronic or hard copy.

Job reclassification is a subject again. Considering having outside people come in and do it instead of in-house. We are far behind the norm.

Adjourned at 9:45.