



Staff Council

Your Voice

606 Jefferson Building

Iowa City, IA 52242

319-335-3600 Fax 319-353-2273

e-mail: staff-council@uiowa.edu

www.uiowa.edu/~staff

July 23, 2007

To: Interim President Gary Fethke
Executive Vice President and Provost Michael Hogan
Senior Vice President Doug True
Associate Vice President Susan Buckley

From: Mary E. Greer, 2006-07 University Staff Council President

Re: 2006-07 Staff Council Year End Report

Attached is the Staff Council Year End Report for April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007. This was a year of outstanding growth for Staff Council and I want to thank you for all of your support. We enjoy the strong relationship we have with University Administration and are very appreciative of your open reception to our voice in the important discussions and decisions that impact our University community.

On April 1, 2007, the Staff Council welcomed its new officers to the helm. The following individuals will represent Staff Council and its 5,400 constituents as officers this year:

Kathy Klein	President	Graduate College
Duncan Stewart	Vice President/President Elect	University Libraries
Sarah Tallman	Budget Officer	VP for Research Office
Nancy Davin	Secretary	Student Health
Mary Greer	Past President	HCIS

Cc: 2006-07 Staff Council Executive Committee
Sally K. Mason, UI President

the subcommittee for more research and refinement. We expect that this issue will come forth for a vote during the 2007-08 year.

Roll call voting was another topic discussed at length this year. When roll call voting is necessary and at what level votes should be recorded and published was first reviewed by our Bylaws committee and then brought forth for a vote in January 2007. Staff Council voted to keep roll call votes to a minimum and later approved changes to the bylaws to indicate when roll call voting is necessary.

In addition to addressing topics brought forward from our subcommittees, Staff Council also consults on issues that arise from different task forces, review committees, and other campus groups. This year, Staff Council voted on term furlough rights committee recommendations, the smoking policy review committee recommendations, university directory and ID photo committee recommendations, and salary policy recommendations.

A Year in Transition

Prior to the beginning of our Staff Council year, UI President David Skorton had already resigned his position and in June 2006, former UI College of Business Dean Gary Fethke was named interim president. When the Board of Regents formed a search committee to replace David Skorton, I was appointed to serve on the committee along with my esteemed faculty, staff and student colleagues. In November 2006, the Board of Regents ended the search and disbanded the committee. Despite efforts by Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack to ease tensions between the Board of Regents leadership and the University community, the Staff Council joined Faculty Senate and Student Government in declaring a historic vote of no-confidence in the leadership of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.

In January 2007, a new presidential search committee was named and our Staff Council was pleased to see staff represented by 2004-05 Staff Council President Cheryl H. Reardon. Cheryl did an excellent job of keeping us informed of the progress of the search and we are grateful to her for all the time and effort she spent serving on this important committee. The committee concluded its work in June 2007 when the Board of Regents officially named Sally K. Mason as the 20th president of the University of Iowa.

A Year of Progress

With Interim President Gary Fethke at the helm, Staff Council officers continued to conduct "business as usual" with University Administration. We valued our monthly meetings with Interim President Fethke and the discussions surrounding staff issues and learning and development.

Executive Vice President and Provost Michael Hogan continues to be an important advocate for staff concerns. Our bimonthly meetings with the Provost included discussions of an interdisciplinary master's program and plans for research staff development.

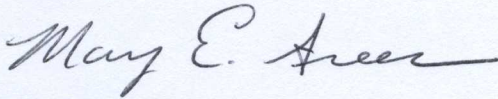
Staff members serving on the University Budgetary Review committee receive monthly updates from Senior Vice President Doug True. Associate Vice President Sue Buckley and her staff provided important data and consultation on a wide variety of staff requests.

The newly-formed Shared Governance Council enjoyed a full year of monthly meetings. Comprised of the officers of Staff Council, Student Government, and Faculty Senate, this collaborative group discussed concerns regarding tuition, salary increases, campus security, and parking. Chairs of the University Charter committees attended each meeting and provided us with updates on their committee work.

Our staff council bylaws received some important changes and refinements; we held an open forum in September 2006 with Interim President Fethke; we improved the visibility of Staff Council through our participation at the homecoming parade, our communication through the media, and by the use of our University internal communication resources. We modified our website to include news items, dockets, and comment and data request forms; and we regularly share our agendas and meeting information with our colleagues at Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa.

On behalf of Staff Council, I wish to express my appreciation to the entire University of Iowa community for its support this year. Special thanks to our UI staff, who continually support and engage in the importance of shared governance at the University of Iowa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary E. Greer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Mary E. Greer
2006-07 Staff Council President