



STAFF COUNCIL

Staff Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

10:01 AM

Call to Order: Staff Council Chair, Brienne McDaniel, called the meeting to order at 10:01AM

Approval of Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes from the last Staff Council meeting was made by Ashley Travis and seconded by Jason Ogletree. November 2024 minutes were approved as written.

President's Office, Don Green:

Recruitment: all faculty/staff need to be active recruiters for Gordon; visit Lambdin for some handy pamphlets if needed.

Thank you for those who assisted and/or attended Investiture.

Fall to Spring Residential retention up 20%--commuter retention was stable. First time residential retention was above commuter in 12 years of recorded data.

Why was retention up? Discipline in the dorms, call outs to students, pushing the graduation message
Now we up enrollment—next time 4 strategies for enrollment will be shared

SACSCOC Update, Terry Betkowski:

Please answer anything regarding SACSCOC ASAP.

Peter Boltz recruiting retirees for writing workshops. Peter Higgins holding roundtable meetings regarding QEP. Sherlana Fryer heading up non-academic assessments—we need 2 years for SACS.

Check the Compliance Certification 2027 page on GSC website for important upcoming SACS dates.

Human Resources, Creche Navarro:

New Hires: Alexis Bryant (Enrollment Communications Manager); Joshua Ogle (Admissions Recruiter); Makiah Lamonte (Admissions Recruiter); Makeia Swan (Program Admin for McDonough); Elizabeth

Williams (Dual enrollment Assistant).

Farewells: Kwajelin "Kae" Farrar (Admissions); Beverly McConnell (McDonough); Angiah Davis (Library); Amber Tallent (Marketing).

There are several full and part-time positions open currently (check website for full list).

USG Great Basics virtual workshop series offered monthly for USG employees to learn & build leadership-related skills through interactive sessions. February 27: Navigating Difficult Conversations with Empathy & Curiosity.

USG GOLD Series—February: Recruiting 101; March: Serving Students with Autism; April: Office Ergonomics

Spring Health Fair: March 4. Includes Blood Drive.

Visit the GSC Wellness Intranet Page for GSC & USG wellness news; each week's wellness events (including USG webinars); information about USG resources; upcoming events and discounts. Access via weekly GSC newsletter or the Highlander Well-being page on GSC website.

Ongoing: small group personal training, Yoga (Mondays @12:30); Line Dancing (Thursdays @5:00); Diabetes Management Support Group (2nd Tuesdays @3:30); Hiking Highlanders (monthly hikes).

Join GSC wellness team, either as committee member or a champion spreading word to your colleagues.

Please complete the Wellness Satisfaction Survey when it comes out.

Advancement & Alumni Affairs, Meagan Pearson:

Thank you for making the Heart for Gordon Gala a success! Over \$120,000 raised for student & program support. Mark your calendars for 2026 Heart for Gordon Gala February 7, 2026.

Swing for Success Golf Tournament/GSC Athletics Fundraiser April 11th.

Alumni Weekend (GMC Alumni) April 11-13th.

Scholarship Luncheon April 18th.

Honors Reception & Graduate Toast May 1st.

Finance and Administration, Uzell Williams:

Q&A Sessions with AVP 2/18 10AM & 1PM Nursing 123; also scheduled appointments

Internal Budget hearings March 10, Nursing 123/Teams (Open to campus)

Reminder that enrollment impacts budget two years later (FY24 enrollment = FY26 funding; FY25 enrollment = FY27 funding)

Instructional Complex DDC/VAV controls update/replacement ongoing; Nursing building boiler and pumps replacement, LED lighting upgrade; Fine Arts boiler replacement; Village HVAC and shower replacements.

Can direct future questions to budgets@gordonstate.edu.

Enrollment Services & Marketing, Melissa Johnson:

Admissions is now working with a new Application platform. March 1st Spring Preview day upcoming. GSC on the Road w/ Bibb County. March is No-Fee month. Financial Aid is still up and running.

Please direct Marketing requests through marcomm@gordonstate.edu

Headcount is up, enrollment credit hours up as well

Academic Affairs, Dr. Ardovini:

Answer any SACS things ASAP

USG will now require first-time freshmen who live outside of 40 miles to live in the dorms.

Apple to Peach initiative is happening

There will be a new Education pathway with a focus on Drama

Fast Forward is set to expand its offerings

Ideas are appreciated!

Treasurer's Report:

Gordon Gives: \$621 raised

Staff Development: remaining \$6,188.76.

Looking to partner with community for Gordon Gives days

"Tell Me Something Good!" —

To Grounds from Tobias: Tobias really appreciates their constant willingness to help out and provide extra manpower when needed. His department often has just him and Edward handling event setups and furniture moving, and the Grounds team is always there to step in with heavy lifting and campus setups. "Their teamwork is incredible, and we're truly grateful for all their support. Thank you for always going above and beyond! I don't know much about landscaping, but I'm happy to return the favor—just let me know!"

To Facilities from HR: Thank you for putting up with us during the process of moving us into our new building.

To Facilities/Custodial from Athletics: Thank you for rearranging and cleaning during the Athletics office shift

Announcements, Brienne McDaniel:

If interested in starting (or taking over the scheduling of an existing) staff interest group, please get in contact.

Our anonymous suggestion form is LIVE!! See Staff Council page.

New Staff Council Meeting dates posted.

Pets of Gordon Calendars now on sale for \$10. Email Bri McDaniel.

Adjournment:

Brienne McDaniel called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ashley Travis moved to adjourn the meeting. Amber Isbell seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Amber Isbell