

Date: February 15, 2010

To: Dr. Susan Herbst,
Executive Vice Chancellor of the University System of Georgia and
Chief Academic Officer of the University System of Georgia

cc: Dr. Linda Noble
Associate Vice Chancellor for Faculty Affairs

From: Dr. Elizabeth Combier (NGCSU) and Dr. Craig Turner (GCSU)
Co-Chairs of the USG Faculty Council Advocates

Re: Official Recognition of the University System of Georgia Faculty Council (USGFC)

We are pleased to announce that faculty advocates at each of the 35 USG institutions have communicated endorsement of the formation and Bylaws (attached) of the University System of Georgia Faculty Council (USGFC). In each case, this institutional endorsement is from (1) the faculty or its representative faculty governance unit, (2) the Chief Academic Officer, and (3) the University President.

As you know, some of the institutions have named a new University President since the time of the institutional endorsement. In each case, the faculty advocate has confirmed the endorsement by the current University President of the institution.

This unanimous endorsement is the culmination of a process begun at the March 14, 2008 meeting of faculty advocates hosted by Clayton State University under the leadership and vision of Dr. Russell Porter, formerly a faculty member at Clayton State University. Since Dr. Porter's departure from Clayton State University, we have served as co-chairs for the faculty advocates of the USGFC at meetings on March 20, 2009 and November 13, 2009.

On behalf of all the faculty advocates for the USGFC, we respectfully request that you seek official recognition of the University System of Georgia Faculty Council as an advisory body at the University System of Georgia level from the Board of Regents and/or the University System of Georgia. This recognition will formalize an advisory role of a representative group of the University System of Georgia faculty to the administrative leadership of the University System of Georgia. This will provide the USG administration access to the unique perspective and wisdom of its faculty.

On behalf of all the faculty advocates for the USGFC, we thank both you and Dr. Noble for your consistent and enthusiastic support throughout this process.

It is our understanding that Dr. Linda Noble is drafting language of this official recognition for possible inclusion in the Policy Manual of the Board of Regents.

If you require clarification or additional information, please let us know.

Attachment: University System of Georgia Faculty Council Bylaws (August 2008)