CFAES Staff Advisory Council

By-Laws

Updated May 2015

I. NAME

The name of the council shall be the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Staff Advisory Council, referred to herein as “Council.” Its standing committees include: Executive Committee, Communication Committee, and Nomination Committee. Its task forces include: Staff Appreciation and Staff Recognition, OutStanding U, Staff Resources, and Professional Development and CFAES Road Trip.

II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Council shall act in an advisory capacity to the Vice President of Agricultural Administration and Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (hereafter Vice President/Dean).

The purpose of the Council is to:

- Provide a formal vehicle for staff participation in the betterment of the College by shaping an environment that promotes mutual respect, builds teams, and creates a compelling place to work and learn;
  - Increase the efficiency and scope of communication within the College and University by:
    - Serving as the staff voice/liaison to the Vice President/Dean
    - Relaying communication from the Vice President/Dean to staff,
    - Facilitating staff-to-staff communication, and
    - Broadening university-wide communication through its relationship with the University Staff Advisory Committee;
- Support the CFAES Core Goal “To be the standard of excellence for colleges of food, agricultural, and environmental sciences.”

III. OFFICERS

Past Chair
Chair (moves to Past Chair)
Vice Chair (moves to Chair)
Communications Director
Secretary/Treasurer
Public Relations Officer/Archivist

Terms will be for one year. Officers shall have been a member for at least one year.

A. Elections

- Elections shall occur during the summer before the annual recognition banquet. The election process can occur electronically;
- Vice Chair shall field all nominations for officers and conduct the election electronically or during a meeting prior to the annual banquet;
- All officers will be elected positions;
- Secret ballot will be held for any contested offices (i.e., more than one candidate for any office);
- Ties will be decided by a coin toss.
At least two-thirds of the membership must vote on the officer team. A simple majority elects each position. Absentee ballots will be accepted in the event members cannot be present.

- Officers can be reelected to the same office with the exception of the Chair and Vice Chair;
- Resignations by officers must be submitted to the Chair. Chair must submit resignation to the Vice Chair and to the Vice President/Dean of the College; and
- Officer vacancies will be filled by special election of the Council. A Chair vacancy will be filled by the Vice Chair with a new Vice Chair elected by Council.

B. Officer Duties

CHAIR:

- The Chair shall be responsible for preparing and distributing the agenda of all full Council regular or special meetings. Rough drafts of the agenda will be distributed to SAC members one week in advance of the scheduled meeting for inclusion and updates.
- The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the CFAES Staff Advisory Council and Executive Committee, in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise indicated.
- The Chair will be spokesperson for the Council in any official matters.
- The Chair will be the official link with any other college committees or will make an appointment to represent the CFAES Staff Advisory Council on that committee or at the meeting.
- The Chair will provide leadership to the Executive Committee and full Council.
- The Chair will notify the CFAES Associate Dean when new appointments or vacancies are to be filled.
- The Chair of the full Council shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and task forces except when nominating new officers.
- The Chair and the Vice Chair will act as liaisons between the task forces and/or standing committees and the SAC. This responsibility will be divided at their discretion.

VICE-CHAIR:

- Vice-Chair will act in place of the Chair when the Chair is absent.
- The Vice Chair and the Chair will act as liaisons between the task forces and/or standing committees and the SAC. This responsibility will be divided at their discretion.
- Vice-Chair will assist the Chair with task force and/or committee report(s).
- The Vice-Chair will be responsible for any other tasks or duties as assigned.
- The Vice-Chair shall act as issues coordinator to ensure exploration of and on issues brought to the Council.
- The Vice-Chair will coordinate the election process for new officers.

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

- The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for recording the minutes of all regular and special full Council meetings and submit them for approval at the next full Council meeting.
- The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for any other tasks or duties as assigned by the Chair, including correspondence.
- The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for monitoring the Staff Advisory Council budget, submitting requests for expenditures to the Executive Committee for approval of all expenditures, and reporting to the full Council on the status of the budget. At the end of each Council year, the Secretary/Treasurer will collect from each Committee/Task Force Chair estimates of expected
expenses for the coming year and will assist the Chair as necessary with the preparation of the budget for the coming year.

- The Secretary/Treasurer will maintain the current membership list and information on terms of office.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR:

- The Communications Director serves as chief correspondent of external communication for the Staff Advisory Council Website.
- The Communications Director chairs the Communications Committee and makes recommendations to Council on formation of Communication Task Force(s) as needed.
- The Communications Director serves in an administrative/resource capacity for coordination of task force(s) activities.
- The Communications Director will distribute to each member a packet of materials including the Committee’s charge from the Dean/Vice president, a brief summary outlining how the Council and Standing Committees function, and copies of all major reports from the previous year.
- The Communications Director will collect correspondence and add articles to the CFAES Monthly and other publications.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER/ARCHIVIST

- The Public Relations/Archivist officer promotes upcoming events and activities of the council via appropriate media outlets.
- The Public Relations/Archivist officer documents notable events of the Council in writing and through photography.
- The Public Relations/Archivist officer will be the contact for the SAC display and is responsible for annual updates, maintenance and storage.
- The Public Relations/Archivist officer will work with Wooster SAC member for updates.
- The Public Relations/Archivist officer will maintain the past council membership and awardees list.

IV. MEETINGS

A. Frequency - Regular meetings will be held at least four to six times per year at various locations in the state or by other means deemed appropriate.

B. Duration - The length of the meeting will average 3-5 hours at the discretion of the Chair.

C. Attendance - Members will notify Chair if unable to attend. A quorum of 50 % of the membership must be present to hold an official business meeting.

Special meetings may be called by the Chair.

V. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee will include the slate of officers plus the Past Chair as a non-voting member. The administrative liaison to the Council will be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

B. Communications Committee will be chaired by the Communications Director.

C. Nominating Committee, if needed, will be chaired by the Vice Chair of the Council.
D. Additional standing committees must be approved by vote of the full Council before inclusion in the Bylaws.

VI. TASK FORCE

A. A task force (TF) will be formed at the discretion of the Council on a voluntary basis.

B. The TF Chair shall be a Council member chosen from within the TF.

C. Each TF should be composed of a minimum of three SAC members. If additional TF members are required (including those outside of SAC), they may be appointed by the TF Chair.

D. All TFs shall report to the SAC during regular business meetings.

VII. MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership- Membership will consist of one representative from each of the following CFAES departments as well as two at-large members who will represent the college staff as a whole. The immediate Past Chair will complete the membership. Total membership will consist of 25 department representatives, 2 at-Large representatives and one past chair.

Agricultural Administration; Agricultural, Environmental and Developmental Economics; Agricultural Communication, Education and Leadership; Animal Sciences; Agricultural Technical Institute; ATI Staff Council; College Communications and Technology; Entomology; Extension Central Administration; Extension Chi Epsilon Sigma; Extension North East Region; Extension North West Region; Extension South West Region; OARDC Central Administration; Entomology; Piketon

Group A:

Agricultural Technical Institute; Food Science & Technology; School of Environment and Natural Resources; College Communications and Technology; Extension North West Region; Extension South West Region; OARDC Central Administration; Entomology; Piketon

Group B:

Horticulture & Crop Science; Food Animal Health Research Program; Extension South East Region; Extension North East Region; Extension Central Administration; OARDC Service Units; OARD C Staff Council; Animal Sciences

Group C:

ATI Staff Council; Agricultural Administration; Food, Agricultural & Biological Engineering; Agricultural Communication, Education and Leadership; Agricultural, Environmental and Developmental Economics; Plant Pathology; International Programs; Extension Chi Epsilon Sigma
B. Terms - Terms of membership shall be three years, with one-third of the membership rotating off the SAC each year. A maximum of two consecutive terms (including the appointment to an unexpired term) can be served. There shall be a minimum 12-month waiting period before a member who has served two consecutive terms can be eligible for reappointment. Terms begin in October and end in November of the appropriate year.

C. Eligibility - Any College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences staff member with at least two years of regular staff (CCS, A& P or senior A& P) service, who is not covered by a bargaining agreement, nor is a member of a union represented at the University, is eligible for membership.

D. Appointments - Membership/nominations will come from the unit/department heads as established by the Vice President of Agricultural Administration for each term to be served. A member who transfers to another unit/department within the College while serving on the Council continues to serve out his/her term, but once the term has expired the new appointment comes from the originating unit/department. The at-large positions will be filled via an application process made available by the Council during the appropriate years. Applications will be accepted during the month of July-August and decided upon by the SAC Executive Committee.

E. Resignations - Any member wishing to resign from the Staff Advisory Council shall submit his/her resignation in writing to the Vice President of Agricultural Administration, the Chair of the Staff Council, and their unit/department head.

F. Vacancies - Council representatives shall notify the Chair to solicit an appointment from the vacating unit/department head to fulfill the remainder of the vacated term. All subsequent terms will be served following the above specifications. Former members who have been off the Council for 12 months are eligible for appointment.

G. Participation and Attendance – Members are expected to attend all Council meetings and activities. In the event a member cannot attend a Council meeting they must contact the Chair at least 24 hours in advance, when possible. Should any member exceed two unexcused absences from meetings, the Chair may request assistance from the Associate Dean who will contact the member and their employer in an attempt to facilitate a resolution. If a resolution cannot be attained, a removal may be pursued. Members are expected to participate in the following Council events: Staff Appreciation Week events, Farm Science Review Vice President’s Luncheon, Pancake Breakfast, Wooster Fun Fest, and Annual Banquet. The only exception is if the member works off-campus of the event location.

VIII. AMENDING BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the SAC by a two-thirds vote of the membership. Suggested amendments must be distributed to the full membership no later than three working days prior to the meeting.