1. Speaker: Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, University President (30 minutes)
   1. Challenging circumstances that the entire country is facing. Georgia and USG better equipped to handle the issues.
   2. Updates on major things that we’re working on currently
      1. CARES Act funding – federal funding to provide emergency grants to students – received about 11 million – required to send out half of that money to students to Spring 2020 students. Thousands of students have taken advantage of that process. Still in Phase 2 – the second half of those dollars – refunding students from Spring.
      2. Reopening – two plans – One is staggered for the summer – submit to USG by the end of the week. Continued some remote work and bringing some people back to campus. Second plan – “normal” operations for the Fall. Accounting for circumstances and safety – considering students and employees.
      3. Budget – 14% reductions. High number – comparison to 2008. Continuing to update the process. Models haven’t been approved. Focused on making sure that what we do doesn’t weaken the university. Creative and innovative as possible – looking to the future. Pending official budget from the governor’s office that should come out around June.
      4. Vision of working with staff specifically (question from Allyson) – Faculty get talked about a lot, but staff really operate the institution. Testing service models. Checking career paths for employees – professional development opportunities. Looking into what we currently have and investigating new possibilities. Looking at affinity groups – like at Upstate. Example of parking spots with F on the sign.
      5. Question from Stephanie Bogart – What are some of the initiatives that we are looking at for the new “normal” future at UWG? Temporary normal first – public health measures will have to be implemented. I don’t believe in a university created around the needs of the employees, but for the consumers of those resources – around students. Trying to make things easier for the students. Do what’s right for the students first, then figure out what’s right for UWG. Policy issues, as example.
      6. Jennifer McManus Question – Summer Graduation ceremony? Working through that and gathering individuals to discuss options. We do not have authorization for a large gathering from the governor yet for July. Talking to students about graduation that are taking pictures on campus while he’s on campus. We need to celebrate those things when they happen.
      7. Shawn’s Question – There is communication about cuts being permanent. How much so given that our current economic issues are brought by what will be a temporary pandemic? What may be temporary, but may have lasting effects. No answer on what that might look like. The state does have the ability and right to cut, and institutions may recover slower than other companies. He believes that higher education is one of the driving factors for community and should be protected, but has limited control over those decisions.
      8. Melanie McLean – Last week staff members were sent a survey asking our opinion and suggestions on current budget issues. Have you seen the results and will you take the suggestions in to account for your final proposal? Allyson answers about what the survey was and where it came from. The survey did not mention the option of being shared, and so we can share themes, but not specifics. 14% is a large number and we’re trying to navigate through this issue. There is no scenario where this isn’t going to require change on how we do things. Shawn shared themes from the survey. Issues with the suggestions is that utilities is a different color of money that people money – we’ve been told by the state that we’ll have to cut based on particular pots of money.
      9. Jessica’s question – For any job reductions, would employees know by June 1st if that position is no longer available come July 1st? Basically will we still have 30 days notice for any reductions? Since we do not know until June 12th about the state’s budget, no, we do not have a timeline in place yet.
      10. Shawn – question about furloughs – State may mandate a particular number of furlough days, so we have yet to determine what that will officially look like.
      11. Closing remarks – recommends to go to the Staff Advisory Council for issues or concerns – additional questions email [SAC@westga.edu](mailto:SAC@westga.edu) – meetings with Dr. Kelly to get additional questions answered.
2. Secretary Candidate Speeches (15 Minutes)
   1. Ariel Jones – with the University for 4 years. Coordinator of Student Programs/SAFBA Budget Manager – started at Police department as a dispatcher. Has worked in different areas of the university and is therefore familiar with issues from different areas – wants to serve as secretary to help support staff.
   2. Camilla Chandler – not present
   3. Katie Lewis – works in Budget Services – in the office for 2 ½ years. Wants to get involved with SAC – goals for this year to get more involved in the campus community. Easy to become isolated, so it’s important to get out and meet people and do more for the campus. Performed those duties as a department assistant.
   4. Melissa Wynn – works in the College of Education – been with UWG for 2 ½ years, but worked for the state for 19 years. Ability to multi-task, which is really important for the secretary position. Really would like to be involved in order to have a voice and to advocate for others. Being able to set aside personal beliefs to speak for the majority.
   5. Stephanie Bogart – IT project manager – Higher Ed for 9 years, private and UWG – personal missions that drive her – one is helping others. Hoping to make people’s day better – believe that we can grow through adversity. 9 to 16 projects at a time, really organized, and takes great notes. Working with SAC fits in with her personal mission.
   6. Election candidates will go out to all staff – with blurb about each candidate, term begins July 1st.
3. Officer and Committee Updates (10 Minutes)
   1. Allyson – thank you all for the questions, talking about the committee to create the principles document, able to inform faculty about what staff does and how we affect student’s success – document was sent all employee, to Dr. Jenks, and Dr. Kelly. Hoping to help with the 14% cuts.
   2. PAC notes will be on the website. Strategic Plan is starting the process again. SAC should have a role in that.
   3. SAC Notes are all on the Shared Drive – trying to get them into an easily sharable place.
   4. Foundation Account balance is $1,035.50 – planning on asking about Best of the West, book scholarships, professional development scholarships, E&G balance - $4,403.68 (where the professional development scholarships come from).
4. Other Business/Questions (Remaining Time)

\*\*\* If calling by phone, please email [SAC@westga.edu](mailto:SAC@westga.edu) to record your attendance

In attendance: Allyson Bretch, Jessica Renard, Shawn Isaacs, Tina Skinner, Stephanie Bogart, Melanie McLean, Ashley Swancy, Jennifer McNiel, Mary Brittain, Sonja Jones, Tracy Williams, and more!

\*\*\* If you have additional questions outside our allotted time, please email [SAC@westga.edu](mailto:SAC@westga.edu) and those concerns will be shared in our quarterly meetings with Dr. Kelly

Next Meeting -