Chair Margaret Weeks welcomed representatives and alternates to the final meeting of the PECC.

The council selected officers for the forthcoming year. Maggie Stein and Amy Muldoon will join Eric Newsome as the officers from the PECC in the Staff Senate’s executive council.

Margaret expressed her deep gratitude to PECC representatives and alternates for their service and hard work. The council returned the thanks to Margaret for her leadership, resourcefulness, and general aplomb.

All current representatives and alternates and those newly elected by their units are invited to attend a luncheon meeting on Thursday, August 7 at 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Harrison/Small Auditorium in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library.

Future Staff Senate meetings will take place on the third Thursday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Commonwealth Room in Newcomb Hall beginning September 18.
Laura Mellusi added that One UVA will promote itself online, at student orientation sessions in August, at any employee benefit fairs, and at faculty orientation sessions. Margaret said we need to add information about One UVA and the new Staff Senate to staff orientation sessions, as well.

Amy Muldoon announced that there is an official office for sustainability at the University. It is staffed by an associate director, a new outreach coordinator, and future communications positions. Its governance falls under Facilities Management. Also, the sustainability committee’s annual retreat is coming up soon.

Margaret proposed that we try to make the August 7 Staff Senate meeting a zero-waste event, and Amy volunteered to investigate how the event can be as sustainable as possible.

Margaret interjected that she recently attended a meeting with members of the Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer Communication Council, and they are very excited about the new Staff Senate.

PECC’s HR representative Logan Hobbes said raises for University Staff will most likely be seen in the beginning of October. To qualify for a raise, the University Staff member must have been in their position for more than a year and have had performance reviews recorded in the Lead@ system. The percentage amount of the raise is undetermined. Logan also said that the release date for Jobs@ has been postponed until September.

The University Benefits Committee is on summer break, so Bill Corey had no news from that organization.

Eric said that his service on the search committee for the new dean of the school of engineering is beginning soon. Then other council members, like Margaret and Maggie Stein, talked about the enlightening experience of serving on a dean search committee and working with the Provost, among other administrators.

Margaret lamented that the PECC put forth no suggestions for staff members to serve on the Women’s Leadership Council. The other councils may have sent forward a volunteer, however. Margaret added that it is probably not too late to serve on the Women’s Leadership Council, so PECC members and their constituents should still consider it.

The council discussed elections of representatives and alternates in their units and schools. The elections must be completed by the end of July.

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**Council Officer Election**

The council selected two officers for the forthcoming year. Eric Newsome, currently co-chair, will succeed to the office of chair, so a new co-chair and a new secretary had to be selected.

Because the PECC is dissolving and merging with other councils to form the Staff Senate, the roles of council officers will be different, at least for the first year of the senate. It is possible for officers elected in this meeting to fill any one of eight Staff Senate executive council committee roles, including two co-chairs, a secretary, a communications officer, a planning officer, an in-boarding officer, a membership
officer, and senate historian. Who exactly takes on these roles will be determined by the Staff Senate executive committee in the fall.

Maggie Stein suggested that the council refer to the two officers elected in the meeting not as co-chair and secretary, but simply officers, as they may not actually function as co-chair or secretary in the new senate. Everyone agreed.

Margaret nominated Maggie, who accepted the nomination. Amy Muldoon has an interest in being communications officer or possibly historian in the new group, and she nominated herself. Laura nominated Eric Molnar, who accepted the nomination. Danelia Robinson has an interest in being secretary, and she nominated herself.

The votes were submitted by secret ballot.

Maggie Stein and Amy Muldoon will join Eric Newsome as the officers from the PECC in the senate’s executive council.

**More Council Business**

Margaret expressed her deep gratitude to PECC representatives and alternates for their service and hard work. She encouraged returning representatives to continue in their strong leadership and participation in the University community. The projects and goals of PECC’s working groups should be carried over into the senate, and all representatives will have the opportunity to lead such groups or committees.

Jayne Weber said the dean of the engineering school recognized members of the PECC during the staff picnic, and Laura said that the dean of arts and sciences also thanked its PECC representatives in public.

All current representatives and alternates and those newly elected by their units are invited to attend a luncheon meeting on Thursday, August 7 at 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Harrison/Small Auditorium in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library. Margaret went over the meeting’s expected agenda: remarks by Pres. Terry Sullivan, UHR staff appreciation video, council chairs’ reviews of accomplishments of the three councils, a discussion of documents such as the new bylaws, mission and scope, etc., a slide presentation of officer bios, goal-setting for the year to come, lunch, and a toast with sparkling cider.

Leigh Rockey, Jenny Mays, and others expressed kudos and gratitude to all council members—but especially to Chair Margaret Weeks. Her leadership, resourcefulness, and general aplomb drove the creation of PECC’s successful working groups and raised the commitment level of all representatives. In addition, without Margaret, the formation of the Staff Senate would not have been possible. Although we all wished to combine the three employee councils, Margaret worked to make it happen, and happen now! Thank you, Margaret, from all of us.

Future Staff Senate meetings will take place on the third Thursday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Commonwealth Room in Newcomb Hall beginning September 18.

That’s all, folks!