EMPLOYEE COUNCIL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN 2020!

EMPLOYEE COUNCIL KICKOFF MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

Emory Employee Council
Established in 1970 by the president of Emory University, the Employee Council facilitates communication between Emory employees and university administration and serves as an advisory body to the president.

The Employee Council represents the perspective of employees to the administration (recommending change when appropriate), facilitates communication between the administration and employees at all organizational levels regarding university policies, practices, and programs and fosters closer working relationships between organizational areas and groups of employees.

Another goal of Employee Council is to help promote community-building programs and activities at Emory. These activities include attending performances on campus, tours of new buildings, and athletic events, to mention just a few.
Members are representatives of the employees in their respective area of the university. As such, members are expected to facilitate two-way communication between the employees they represent and the Employee Council. This dialogue ensures that the Employee Council represents all Emory employees, their issues, and their concerns effectively to Emory’s administration.

Members are expected to be active participants in Employee Council. The baseline for participation includes attending meetings and serving out two-year terms. Projects and initiatives pursued by Employee Council will require active participation and members are encouraged to volunteer their efforts.
FOUNDEDING - 1970

• Started as the Employee Relations Council comprised of administrators and students

• Created at a time when the relationship between students, faculty, and staff was changing
FOUNDING - 1970

• Debates among students in the Wheel about:
  – Student conduct and Honor Council
  – Greek Life
  – Existence of ROTC on campus
  – Racism
  – University Governance

• National and local events sparked debate, protest, and change at Emory
King’s Assassination Stirs Emory, World

By Bob Smith

Last Thursday’s assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. of Atlanta sparked immediate reactions throughout the United States. Reactions to the assassination came in several major cities, including the mobilization of the National Guard and the National Brotherhood of Animals, as well as the Sheriffs’ Association in Virginia. At Emory, the immediate reaction was to form the Emory Student Senate, a group that is made up of two senators from each of the four Emory houses. The group was created to address the students’ concerns.

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With Administrative heavy-weights at the helm, Emory Senate called a meeting of thirty-five organizational presidents and campus leaders at the U.S. Embassy in Washington D.C. to discuss student concerns. The President of the Southern Baptist Convention was invited to the meeting on April 7, 1968. The meeting resolved to form the Student Senate, a group that would address the students’ concerns.

The committee, which represented all branches of the university, was supported by Emory’s participation in the Southern Baptist Convention. The committee was composed of twenty-five students and ten faculty members. The committee was composed of twenty-five students and ten faculty members. The committee was composed of twenty-five students and ten faculty members.

On Monday, April 7, the events surrounding King’s assassination became more complex. The Emory Senate called the “wildflower movement” for an announcement, which was decided by the students’ organizations. The announcement stated that “the Emory Senate, the university Senate, and the Student Senate call on the administration to take immediate action to address the students’ concerns.” The announcement was made in response to the shooting of Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis on April 4, 1968.
Black students protest unequal treatment of black and white employees in the Cox dining hall, May 25, 1969.

Special edition of the Wheel following what came to be known as the “Four Days in May.” Black students confronted institutional racism facing students and employees.
Students occupy Emory’s Administration Building in protest of bombing of Cambodia as part of Vietnam War.

Part of a national student strike and demonstrations sparked by the killing of four student protesters at Kent State University a day before May 4th.
Student Government Association President, Doug Silvis, comments on a new policy on dissent, a direct response to recent protests on campus – includes new Employee Relations Council in his comments

Wheel, October 13, 1970

Advertisement seeking applications for student positions on Employee Relations Council

Wheel, January 19, 1971
Senate Changes, Expands
by Robert Fowler

1950 in an effort to make it a body representative of all the elements of the university. This, in effect, is one of the main advantages of the Senate: it is one of the few, perhaps the only group on campus where all segments of the University can come together and discuss recommendations applicable to Emory’s organization and activities.

The ex-officio members of the Senate, the President and the Vice Presidents of the University, along with the President of the Student Government Association, meet every third Tuesday of the month with the 32 elected members of the Senate.

The elected members are divided into four main groups. The Faculty elects 17 members, the Student body has three elected members from the College, one student from Oxford, two member of the Graduate School, and three students selected on a rotating basis from the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Law, Theology, and Business Administration.

This year there are members of the Law, Theology, and Business Administration Schools serving on the Senate. The Academic Deans elect one member of the Senate, and the remaining five members are chosen from the grouping entitled Specified Activity. This includes an elected librarian, two members elected from the University Employee Relations Council, and two member of the Alumni, chosen by the Alumni Council.

This year, one of the main accomplishments of the committee chaired by Dr. Harry Williams of the School of Pharmacology, has been the investigation into a proposed academic calendar change. This was the suggestion that fall quarter end for some segments of the University at the Thanksgiving break, giving students a month’s vacation between fall and winter quarters.

University Senate was reorganized to include more representatives from campus groups, including Employee Relations Council.
STUDENT INVOLVEMENT KEY TO CHANGES

Article about students seeking information to advocate on behalf of employees on topics like:

• wages

• benefits

• grievances policies

Wheel, January 30, 1973
The Employee Relations Council became the Employee Council in 1977 and shortly after the University Senate reorganized again to streamline all of the new committees and councils created in the previous 10 years.
The 1980s and 1990s saw a lot of changes at Emory, thanks to Robert W. Woodruff’s transformative gift.
CHANGE MEANS THINGS COME...
Construction workers toiled busily this week as the destruction of Winship rapidly progressed with each swing of the wrecking ball.

Photo by Jeff Silverstein

Demolition of Winship draws student crowd

By Jim Palmer

Realization of the new Dobbs University Center came a step closer to starting on Monday when Winship Hall was pounded and partially demolished by a construction wrecking ball.

As the destruction continued, jokes passed around among the students. One student commented that the destruction had attracted a larger crowd than was seen at most Emory Eagle basketball games. “This is better
... BUT EMPLOYEE COUNCIL HAS BEEN ACTIVE THROUGHOUT!