



University
of Houston
Clear Lake

University Council Minutes

*March 10, 2022, 2:00 pm (Forest Room and Virtual Teams Meeting) | Meeting Called to Order by
Richard Walker, Interim President*

In Attendance

Beavers, Elizabeth, Bendeck, Yvette, Busby, Dwayne, Costello, Sarah, Denney, Mark, Dubrovskiy, Anton, Garland, Kathleen, Gaskins, LeeBrian, Gonzalez, Miguel, Hart, Aaron, Huss-Keeler, Rebecca, Lewis, Elizabeth, Matthew, Kathryn, Maynard, Christopher, Michael, Timothy, Miralles, Evelyn, Pedro, Joan, Richardson, Timothy, Robinson, Leroy, Sanford, Glenn, Scates, Jasara, Staley, Joseph, Unwala, Ishaq, Vivienne, McClendon, Wagner, Chris, Waller, Edward, Walther, Christine, Withey, Paul, Young, Lee

Approval of Minutes

The February 10, 2022 meeting minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Academic Council

Writing Requirements

The proposal seeks to clarify how programs can accept WRIT 2311 within the Communications section of the University Core Curriculum. The proposal was never approved and needed a third writing course and gave another option. Dr. Glenn Sanford, Dean, College of Human Sciences and Humanities, interjected that commentary allows avoidance of forcing alignment of Core Curriculum. The proposal was approved by Dean Joan Pedro, second by Dean Glenn Sanford

Centers for Institutes Policy

This proposal brings UHCL within compliance with UHS policy for Centers and Institutes. UHCL's Policy Office will format the policy accordingly and return for formatting review to confirm no changes were made to the content of the policy. The proposal was approved by Dr. Anton Dubrovskiy and Dr. Yvette Bendeck.

Information Items – University Shared Governance Committee Reports

Academic Council

Chair, Dr. Christopher Maynard
No agenda items

University Life Committee (ULC)

Chair, Dr. Kathleen Garland - No agenda items

Facilities and Support Services Committee

Mark Denney presented the FSSC Bylaw update. The intent was to update the membership list to reflect new positions and title changes across campus and better align with the recent "Shared Governance" Policy. FSSC approved the bylaw changes.

Planning and Budget Committee (PBC)

Chair, Dr. Timothy Michael

No agenda items

President's Report

Dr. Richard Walker shared about the new initiative 'Reimagined our Workplace.' The University of Houston System Board of Regents voted to support this initiative. Per Chancellor Khator, each university president will establish policy, guidance, and the support needed to facilitate. Dr. Walker stated that Dr. Khator did set some parameters. She indicated that there are some different categories, some of which are already in place. Only full-time university employees qualify for this benefit.

The Core Elements of the reimagined workplace include:

- Fully off-site: A position that is classified as off-site and approved as required
- Partially off-Site: Staff can work some days on-site and some days off-site as approved
- Occasional off-Site: Staff can work off-site temporarily as approved

Other guidelines are, and protocols have been set in place, which includes:

- Workplace flexibility is a privilege and not a right
- It is going to be based on each unit making determinations around parameters
- Performance is going to be a requirement
- There is going to be an approval process
- There is going to be training required for both participants and supervisors
- A policy will be set in place, and it will be reviewed annually

Dr. Walker sent out a communication to iterate that a process would be in place. A working group will discuss the subject and draft a policy with the protocols to be set in place and the approval process.

Before the policy is finalized, it will be reviewed by the Chancellor. Announcements and communications will be sent out once the policies have been implemented. The goal or target is to have this roll out by the fall semester, but this date has not been finalized.

Dr. Walker shared an update on the President and Provost searches which are both posted on the UHCL homepage. There is a link on the top right-hand corner across the bar. Click on the link to view the positions. We are scheduled to interview the first round of candidates in April.

Strategic Partnerships - some final changes were made to this position description; Dr. Christopher Maynard's Interim Provost will chair that search committee.

Dr. David Brittain's current role is combined as Interim Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer and Title IX Coordinator. Based on the recommendations from the UH System General Counsel Office, those two positions will be separated. The Title IX and EEO Officer will be one position that will require a JD because of the type of work involved. Mr. Denney is chairing that search. Dr. Aaron Hart is chairing the position for a Diversity and Inclusion Officer.

A Chief Compliance Officer position is being created. This person will have all eyes on all compliance issues for the entire institution. Mr. Denney is also chairing this search. All of these positions will be posted soon.

For the Good of the Order

Dr. Lee Young announced that Spring Commencement would take place Saturday, May 14. There will be two ceremonies at 10 am and 3 pm at the NRG Arena. A Commencement Committee has been developed, and notices have been sent out to all the teams. The information is already up on the Commencement website.

Dr. Gigi Do shared with the committee an issue about Export Control. GOMS is bringing the Ambassador of Australia to the campus. How are the campuses working on Export control? Dr. Christopher Maynard commented that this is something currently being worked on.

Dr. Sherry Hawn shared that she plans to survey students, staff, and faculty across 12 touch-point areas within business operations to get some baseline information on satisfaction levels and needs. This is tied to the revamping of tools on the business operations website. They are looking at each of the main areas, AP, Procurement, Student Business Services, and Accounting. This tool will help end-users do their business a little more easily. Within that tool, we promised that there would be an annual satisfaction survey. The goal is to send it out later in March or sometime in April before students leave for the semester.

Next Meeting

April 14, 2022, | 2:00 pm, Forest Room and Virtual via Zoom

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm.

ACTION ITEMS