

## University Council Minutes

September 7, 2023, 2:02 p.m. (Forest Room and Virtual Teams Meeting)  
Meeting Called to Order by Dr. Richard Walker, President

### IN ATTENDANCE

**UC Members:** Matthew Aschenbrener, Stephen Cotten, Mark Denney, Yolanda Edmond, LeeBrian Gaskins, Allison Gillespie, Sherry Hawn, Lee Hilyer, Rebecca Huss-Keeler, Bubba Jones, Angela Kelling, Renee Lastrapes, Beth Lewis, Kathryn Matthew, Christopher Maynard, Timothy Michael, Dillon Nash, Joan Pedro, Robert Phalen, Tina Powellson, David Rachita, Glen Sanford, Joseph Staley, Edward Waller, Christine Walther

**Ex-Officio Members:** David Brittain, Yolanda Nimmer-Williams, Natalie Pecknold, Daniel Ramirez

**Guests:** Shared Governance Committees

### ACTION ITEMS

#### Approval of Minutes

The May 11, 2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.

### INFORMATION ITEMS

#### University Life Committee (ULC)

Ms. Edmond presented that the following policies were retired and replaced by the related UH System Policy to provide more consistency and clarity in our policies. These changes are part of the ongoing university-wide policy review and update.

- UHCL MAP 02.A.08 – Consulting and Paid Professional Services
  - Replaced with UH System interim policy SAM 02.A.08 – Outside Activities/Interests Disclosures.
- UHCL MAP 02.A.09 – Conflict of Interest
  - Replaced with SAM 02.A.29 – Ethical Conduct of Employees.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Walker introduced the new Chief of Staff/Chief Strategy Officer, Dr. Allison Gillespie.
- The legislative session was wrapped up in June. President Walker gave a brief overview of the changes due to SB 17 and stated that the structure UHCL created was approved by general counsel and also replicated at UH.
- As part of this legislative session's higher education budget, UHCL received an increase in the amount of formula funding, an increase in funding for the Hazelwood program that

supports our veterans, Comprehensive Regional Universities (CRU) funding to support at-risk students; and funding relief to cover increases as benefits continue to increase.

- We received \$1,000,000 for the biennium and \$500,000 a year to support the STEP program in the College of Education. Pearland ISD and Clear Creek ISD will be added as targeted districts for the program. However, our increased funding requests for CADD and a new STEM II Building were not funded – and they will continue to be on our future funding requests.
- FY '24 Budget was approved by the Board of Regents at their meeting in August. The approved budget included a 3% increase for salary adjustments: 2% merit pool and 1% for market analysis adjustments.
- Enrollment: While the number of new students increased slightly, the larger size of the 2023 graduating class resulted in an overall enrollment decline in the number of returning students. Increasing our enrollment will be a critical focus for the entire university.
- The “State of the University” address will be held on October 17, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- UHCL will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024.
- The University Council meeting day has changed to the last Thursday of the month.

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

---

---

Ms. Edmond thanked President Walker for the merit increases. She also thanked Deja Sero, Dr. Gaskins, Krista Buckminster, and Human Resources for the team effort.

President Walker thanked Provost Maynard and his team for handling merit for the Faculty.

### **Next Meeting**

**September 28, 2023, | 2:00 p.m., Forest Room, and Virtual via Teams**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.