



## University Council Minutes

*May 13, 2021, 2:00 p.m. (Virtual Teams Meeting) | Meeting Called to Order by Ira K. Blake, President*

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### In Attendance

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Elizabeth Beavers, Dwayne Busby, Cindy Cook, Sara Kielt Costello, Mark Denney, LeeBrian Gaskins, Samuel Gladden, Miguel Gonzalez, Aaron Hart, Eric Herrera, Esther Herrera, Romano Hudson, Rebecca Huss-Keeler, Heather Kanenberg, Beth Lewis, Hiba Loya, Brad McGonagle, Kathryn Matthew, Timothy Michael, Evelyn Miralles, Joan Pedro, David Rachita, Roberta Raymond, Bianca Schonberg, Christal Rene Seahorn, Joseph Staley, Brian Stephens, Edward Waller, Christine Walther, Christopher Ward, Paul Withey, Kevin Wooten, Randall Xu, Lee Young, Chloris Yue, Faiza Zalila

ABSENT:

Guests:

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### Approval of Minutes

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The minutes from the April 8, 2021 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

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### Academic Council

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Dr. Kathryn Mathew, Associate VP, Academic Affairs, introduced two proposals on behalf of the Academic Council:

- **Faculty availability policy-** Previously known in the handbook as faculty office hours. This policy to reconceptualize office hours to reflect better a student-focused orientation on ensuring student success. The policy states that faculty may choose to be available through office hours or alternative engagement opportunities for at least one hour per week for every three hours of credit hours taught. President Ira Blake stated that further discussions should be held with the Provost, Dr. Steven Berberich, regarding the implementation of this policy.
- **Piper Award-** Every May, the Minnie Stevens Piper foundation grants the Piper Professor Awards to 10 Texas college or university professors to honor their teaching excellence. The policy presented documents how the award committee members are selected, the eligibility and nominations of faculty members, and how the nominations are scored.

All proposals presented were passed.

### Facilities and Support Services Committee

No action items

## **University Life Committee**

Dr. Brad McGonagle, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented 11 policies.

- Aids Policy (to be retired) policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Consulting and Paid Professional Service Policy
- Emergency Closing Policy to be retired
- Family and Medical Leave Policy
- New Staff Orientation Policy
- Parental Leave Policy
- Public Access to Personnel Files Policy
- Shift Differential Policy
- Staff Performance Policy
- Vacation and Sick Leave Policy

President Blake proposed that academic affairs review the shift differential for asynchronous and synchronous instructional programming since Covid-19 might require extended days to ensure that students get the support they need regardless of when they are taking the scheduled courses. Dr. Brad McGonagle stated he would collaborate with Dr. Aaron Hart, Vice President, Student Affairs Dr. Lee Young, Vice President, Strategic Enrollment Management. and Dr. Steven Berberich.

All items were approved.

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## **Information Items – University Shared Governance Committee Reports**

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### **Academic Council**

No agenda items

### **University Life Committee (ULC)**

No agenda items

### **Facilities and Support Services Committee**

Dr. Christopher Ward said that FMC provided a full report regarding the projects for the summer. Mr. Mark Denney said they were going through the approval and review process to use the Coronavirus Relief Funds that directly impact health and safety on campus. One example is an increase in the filtration system to replace ducting that is over 45 years old. The plan is to replace the ductwork over the summer. Facilities keeps an active list on the website of all the current projects, including the cost.

### **Planning and Budget Committee (PBC)**

Dr. Timothy Michael, PBC Chair, and Mr. Mark Denney, Vice President-Administration and Finance, provided FY2022 budget initiative presentation links with meeting ID and passcode. Mr. Mark Denney submitted a six-page document, one for each of the five divisions and the office of the President, which includes presentations from strategic planning, strategic partnerships, and UHCL Pearland. Mr. Denney reviewed the project and explained the ranking and scoring to determine the strategic plan alignment score and projected return on investment (ROI). The highest-ranking was five, and the lowest was one.

1. The planning and budget committee did the ranking and votes for the initiatives, excluding non-voting members and the five vice presidents.

2. The total summary of the budget initiatives remaining is 6.471 million dollars.
3. President Blake inquired about vice president priority ratings for Pearland. Mr. Denney stated he would update that information.
4. The current enrollment projected is flat for next year.
5. The tuition increase will provide additional resources of approximately three million dollars.
6. A campus-wide presentation of the approved budget initiatives is scheduled for this fall.
7. The budget will become official in August at the next Board of Regents' meeting.

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## **President's Report**

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President Ira K. Blake was pleased with everyone moving forward and ensuring that we delivered quality educational experiences. Everyone supported their teams and participated in the committee meetings that helped shape this institution's future direction. President Blake extended thank you to everyone.

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## **For the Good of the Order**

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## **Next Meeting**

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**September 9, 2021, | 2:00 p.m., Virtual via Zoom**

There being no further business, the Meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Denney stated two increased fees, a minimum semester dining plan, and education abroad fees. There will be an email vote to allow everyone to review the items which Mr. Denney will spearhead.