

- **Welcome!**

Veronica Ortiz opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2022. She welcomed everyone attending the meeting. A reminder was given that the meeting would be recorded and posted online.

- **Guest Speaker – Dr. Tina Powellson, Interim VP Student Affairs**

Dr. Powellson presented information on happenings in the Division of Student Affairs(DSA). She started at UHCL in September and came to us from UH where is spent eight years. Goals and future plans were shared. She mentioned that DSA would like to define what student involvement looks like at UHCL and if the students' needs are being met. Branding will be key in communicating to students and ensuring they receive the message. They will also be looking at the data on who is attending, what events are being attended, and who are not attending events increase student involvement and create a vibrant culture on campus. Additionally, they are working on creating a community within DSA to improve staff satisfaction and workplace morale. They will be creating a culture of assessment and processes that are connected and build on each other.

Student Center Project – They are working on developing a new Student Center which will serve as a hub for student engagement. Student interest and wants will be collected through Town Halls and talking sessions to create a space and building that meets the needs they are looking for in a center. Students will receive information and will vote on the Student Center. Questions and timelines were asked about the center.

Family Weekend + Homecoming, Weeks of Welcome, Spirit Week will have a campus wide approach to broaden the reach. Steering committees are being created that will have representatives from around campus. USA has been asked to sit on the steering committee. Everyone is encouraged to attend the events and share ideas.

- **USA Committee Reports**

- **Fundraising Committee**, Chair Melissa Melendez  
Bay Area Houston Food Lovers (BAHFL) Cards – 38 cards were sold and a \$10 donation was given which gave a total of \$428 raised.

“Walking Tacos” was included in the Bingo/Loteria event. Over 30 “walking tacos” were sold for a total of \$100 raised but the amount does not cover the cost for the supplies.

Spring fundraising ideas were shared.

A policy is being developed that will state that all money raised will be applied to scholarships only. The goal is to have the policy included in the USA By-Laws.

- **Professional Development Committee**, Chair Cynthia Goode  
Cynthia Goode will be stepping down in December. Esther Herrera has agreed to take over as the Professional Development Committee Chair. Thank yous were given to Cynthia for her time and service to USA. Esther will work on separating her role in USA with her duties with HR Professional Development. Information on the HR ASCEND

program was shared and everyone was encouraged to attend the professional development opportunities.

- **Program Planning Committee**, Chair Kate Rivardo  
Recap of the fall semester included Popcorn bar, staff vs student kickball, Loteria/Bingo and the Library Archives tour.  
Sunshine committee highlighted the Accessibility Support Center, Academic Transfer Advising, Accounts Payable, COB and COE Office.  
Student Leader vs Staff Volleyball will be on Thursday, April 6 from 4-6 in Campus Recreation.  
Suggestions for future events were encouraged.
- **Scholarship Committee**, Chair Bernie Streeter  
Deadline has been extended to January 13<sup>th</sup>. The application has had some technical difficulties. Staff are encouraged to send applications directly to Bernie. The committee will be meeting in the new year to review.
- **Welcome & Outreach Committee**, Chair Stephanie Holleran  
No updates.

USA received a question to include a calendar invitation to announcements that include event dates and times.

- **Treasurers Report**, Chair April Harris  
The current account balances for all accounts were shared.

- **Shared Governance Reports**

- **University Council**, Chair Veronica Ortiz  
SACSCOC reaffirmation – UHCL received the best reaffirmation that could be given. Reaffirmations can be given but additional reports are required. UHCL received reaffirmation with no additional reports needed.  
Over 1100+ students participated in commencement  
Holiday open houses have been happening all week. The final open house will be later in the afternoon in the President's Office. Everyone was encouraged to attend.  
Investiture will be Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. A RSVP will be required. It will also be life streamed for those that cannot attend in person.
- **Facilities and Support Services Committee**, Chairs Bianca Schonberg and Lee Ann Wheelbarger  
A wayfinding sub-committee has been formed.
- **Planning and Budgeting Committee**, Chairs Kurt Lund and Megan Bearden  
Kurt shared information from the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Denney provided updates to the calendar, the pandemic has shown a drop-in enrollment from community colleges which will effect enrollment at UHCL, an increase in graduate enrollment is being seen, surplus of funds in the State but funds have spending restrictions, Texas Medical Center move has been delayed due to contract issues and lack of suitable space.

- **University Life Committee**, Chairs Sheeba Thomas and Fran Davis  
No updates

- **Hawk Spirit Award!**

Presented to **Lea Black**

Division Business Administrator, Enrollment Management

Congratulations **Lea!!!**



Nominations are encouraged.

- **USA Wants to hear from you**

Questions, comments, or concerns can be sent through the USA webpage or QR code. Submissions are anonymous unless the name is provided on the form.

Three questions have been received and shared with everyone. Discussion on questions and response occurred.

A motion was sent to the floor to remove anonymous from the form. The concern is that the submitter can still be tracked. The board will review the wording and discuss changing the verbiage. Discussion on anonymity vs confidentially occurred.

- **Announcements**

Dr. Walker has requested a meeting with the USA Executive Board. Veronica collected agenda items from everyone on the USA and shared the agenda items with everyone at the General Meeting.

A request to remove "secretary" from the USA board titles was submitted. The board will add the discussion to their agenda.

- **Door Prizes!**

Names of in person and online attendees will be added to a drawing to receive USA Swag. Names will be drawn after the meeting and winners will be contacted.

- **Next General Meeting**

The next General Meeting will be on 1/19/22 from 10-11 virtually or in person (TBA)