



# STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Minutes

Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 2017

9:00 am, Baxter Arena

### Present Members:

Melissa Boseman, Deb Brozak, Eric Hager (P.E.), Kim Harter, Barb Harvey, Sarah Kole, Steve Lendt, Melissa Malmberg, Beau Malnack, Katie Martikainen (S), Patti Martin, Megan Nelson (V.P.), Lindsey Parde, Jill Russell, Laura Sherwin, Jim Sinclair, Steve Summers, Jill Sutton, Linda Value, Jennifer Walcutt, Thomas Walker (P), Suzanne Withem (T)

### Absent Members:

Anthony Flott (P.P.), Chandra Gustafson, Matt Shields, Kevin Thibodeau,

### Group & Individual Photos: (8:50 - 9:00 am)

### Guest Speakers: (9:00 - 9:45 am)

#### **Michael Smith, Baxter Arena**

Harold began by

Michael took us on a tour of the Arena, which included a look into the (hockey) locker rooms. The main arena floor was set for a fundraiser event. Discussion revolved around building's short history and the continual growth as an event space. It is interesting to note that while some positions began as out-sourced hires, now most of the staff are UNO employees.

### Call to Order

#### **Approval of Minutes**

- No discussion of the minutes or changes.
- Motion to approve: Beau Malnack; seconded by Barb Harvey

#### **President's Report – Thomas Walker**

Thomas discussed the SAC email about Budget Reduction Team (BRT) recommendations. Please take a look at links and the FAQ. We are asking that all feedback go to BRT portal, as only commenting to SAC will not deliver the feedback to the right place. We have seen 4 dozen or comments come to SAC, so please brush up, as representatives, and encourage your constituents to respond online.

- Kim Harter: How early would this go into effect?
- Thomas: Earliest could be July 2018
- Beau commented that he was at meeting for all Business Managers. They did note that benefits proposals are on hold. Earliest would go into effect would be 2019. There should be an email letter to go out this week. (University-wide email). The BRT fielded over 100 proposals and are planning on using 72. There will be small roll-out.
- Laura Sherwin: Are these recommendations happening for sure?
- Beau: The way it was explained to him, yes. Although, they may not know what it all will look like right now.
- There was a suggestion to bring in this speaker to UNO (Marjori Kostelnik); Thomas said he would put in request.

- Thomas noted he spoke with Chancellor about the BRT recommendations. The Chancellor also has concerns; mainly that it could backfire. Possibly not even save money. (an example being that staff will take vacation more often and more frequently). Again, Dr. Gold reiterated that our comments may help. (strength in numbers)
- Beau: will we see data? Not sure...
- Megan Nelson said she did receive feedback from HR regarding her notes on behalf of younger staff – pregnant mothers, etc... The recommendations seem to affect all in ways they had not expected. It is not just the retirees who are paying attention.
- Linda commented that BRT needs to be more transparent and the changes easier to understand.
- Reminder to all: we elect our Board of Regents. These areas of concern may be good questions as you go into voting process.
- Thomas: Our representative is Hal Daub.
- Suzanne: Bob Whitehouse is the Omaha outlier representative
- Thomas added that he is also President of the Board right now. Thomas encouraged everyone to reach out specifically to him.
- Steve: who is the driver for this?
- Thomas: President Bounds was the driver and requester; but now up to Board of Regents and Bounds to determine what to do.
- Katie reiterated importance of communication and to ask questions. See if you can be involved in some of the smaller committees.
- Beau: hoping the website can show what new updates are. As of now, it is updated, but not clear what is changing and when.

### **Election for President-Elect (10:03am)**

#### Nominations

Linda nominated Sarah Kole (accepted)

Sarah liked the idea of doing more as a group. The backpack program is great, but other types of services events would be good, too. She would carry through Eric's ideas of Professional Development and commented on the importance of communication.

Sarah nominated Suzanne Withem (accepted)

Suzanne echoed Sarah's comments about service. Her philosophy is "giving to get to give again." With SAC, Suzanne enjoys the activity/service she is doing now, but would like to step into a new role and grow that. Give = celebrating staff, through current service and others. BRT: advocacy for staff who often get moved to the size. Ability to grow as a group.

Thomas nominated Megan Nelson (accepted)

Megan agreed with what had been said before her. Commented how much she would miss Eric, and echoed his passion. UNO/Maverick Spirit has been a huge part of her life. She has a good idea of the political climate, and understands positions of the staff. She can be more collaborative and transparent in efforts with the constituents.

#### Voting

3 nominees left the room. Voting by paper. Megan announced new President-Elect.

### **Election for Vice President (10:10am)**

#### Nominations

Barb nominated Sarah Kole (accepted)

Sarah did not have much more to elaborate than what was already said. Other than, she has tried to be on SAC for the past 3 years, so truly is excited just to be a member of the group.

Sarah nominated Suzanne Withem (declined)

Thomas nominated Steve Sumemrs (accepted)

Steve has been honored to be on SAC so far. He has had fun with service so far, and would love to do more.

Steve nominated Beau Malnack (declined)

Voting

2 nominees left the room. Voting by paper. Sarah announced new Vice President.

### **Treasurer's Report – Suzanne Withem**

- Current balance of \$1,126.77

### **Committee Chair Reports**

- **Professional Development Committee – Eric Hager**
  - Nothing to report
- **Elections Committee – Megan Nelson**
  - Nothing to report
- **Resolutions Committee – Megan Nelson**
  - Nothing to report
- **Communications & Publications Committee – Katie Martikainen**
  - Nothing to report
- **Activities Committee – Suzanne Withem**
  - Suzanne met with MavFood Pantry. They are excited for us to work with them. Their new model involves stocking specific items so people who use service can choose from a menu. The organizers would rather SAC host a fund raiser instead of item raiser. Suzanne would love to have a small group to chat about how to make this separate from eraser drive and if SAC raises money, how to drive competition?

Barb: if they get things they are not able to use, what do they do?

Suzanne: they will donate them to other organization's that will give them out

### **Updates on the following committees**

- **UNO Athletics Committee Meeting – Thomas Walker**
  - Trev Alberts was at the meeting and announced he will not be leaving UNO. He highlighted the growth that has happened recently, and noted there has been more funding from Lear Field (down now from 8mil to 6mil in state funding). There is a new recruit in basketball, and thinks this year may be better than last year
- **UNO Parking Committee – Kim Harter**
  - There was a meeting, but she will update us at the next SAC meeting
- **UNO Wellness Stampede Advisory Committee – Steve Lendt**
  - Health and Wellness Fair: November 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are looking for volunteers; Steve will send an email with the link. Please encourage your coworkers to volunteer and attend.
- **UNO Sustainability Committee – Steve Summers**
  - Nothing to report
- **Mav Communications Committee – Thomas Walker**
  - Meeting in a couple of weeks. There is still a big push to move Faculty off the old website.

**New Business/Good of the Order**

- Barb: the United Way campaign is over. They have not shared the total yet. She believes the goal was \$60,000

**Adjourn – 10:22am**

Motion: Steve Lendt; seconded by Steve Summers

**Next Meeting:**

November 14<sup>th</sup> – 9:00am-10:00am, Thompson Alumni Center

Guest Speakers – Lee Denker & Mike Bird, UNO Alumni Association/Foundation