



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL

General Meeting Agenda – February 9, 2021

9:00 A.M. on Zoom

Present: Alex Zatzabal Boryca, Amanda Buker, Amy Dinh, Amy Skolaski, Andrew Armatys, Brevan Jorgenson, Bryson Barth, Cecil Hicks Jr., Charles Fisher, Charley Steed, Courtney Luxon, Ellen Rice, Emily Hassenstab, Geri Murphy, Hannah Wanzenried Solberg, Heike Langdon, Kaitlin Carlson, Katie Sup Rezac, Kennan Krick, Keristiena Dodge, Kirsten Case Fuller, Lisa Medina, Melissa Eckstein, Michael Smith, Mindy Hunke, Nadira Ford-Robbins, Nikki Hecht, Paola Briones, Rachael Jensen, Rachel Radel, Sarah McGrath, Steven Summers, Thomas Martinez, Thomas Walker, Traci Fullerton, Tracie Anderson, Vanessa Hatfield-Reeker, Yuriko Doku

Guests: Dr. Sacha Kopp, Dr. Jane Meza

Absent: Adam Hilt, Andrea Talbot, Gloria Marchio, Lolita Schumacher, Ronita Bolton, Shannon Teamer

This meeting was held under Chatham House Rule. Topics and decisions will be fully and accurately represented but not individual speakers.

Call to Order – 9:03 A.M.

Guest Speakers

- Senior Vice Chancellor Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.
 - Proposed Academic Calendar
 - Large amount of interest in “J term”
 - Three-week term; course credit offered; begin after New Years (3rd of January); span MLK Day (holiday); push spring semester back a week (still includes a spring break)
 - Proposed calendar for Fall 2021-Spring 2022
 - See Attachment “Fall 2021 & Spring 2022 Uniform Calendars – UNO Proposal”
 - Feedback to Sacha Kopp and Deb Smith-Howell
 - SAC to compile feedback to send
 - Propose solution and concerns
 - **Submit Feedback on “J Term” Here:**
[SAC J-Term Considerations.docx](#)
 - Addressing concerns with budget cuts, workload increases

- UNO needs an increase in advisors due to enrollment (not on average with other universities); hope State of Nebraska will put higher education on high priority
 - J-term questions/comments brought up
 - Limiting number of classes that can be taken in J-term
 - Most remote-courses online
 - Will not change winter break dates
 - A *New York Times* article on the future of work shared by Dr. Kopp
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/23/opinion/covid-offices-remote-work.html>
- Commencement for May 2021
 - Three options: streaming commencement (May/Dec 2020); in-person (increase # of scenarios; decrease # of individuals & ticket guests); photo opportunities where students can come, walk the stage, and get pictures taken.
- Winter Weather Days
 - Full shutdown mode presently
 - Hoping to move to remote learning days
- Booklet by Chronical of Higher Education
 - See Attachment: *The Post-Pandemic College*
 - UNO related examples of changes during the pandemic
 - Faculty/staff hired but not located in Omaha
- Interim Director of the Office of Health Security Jane Meza, Ph.D.
 - COVID-19 Updates
 - Widespread vaccination for herd immunity; do not know the immunity duration for vaccine
 - If tested positive and then exposed again, do not need to quarantine again within 90 days.
 - Received both doses of vaccine – producing anti-bodies and developing immunity. Can be exposed to someone with COVID-19 and still be an asymptomatic carrier
 - Douglas County is distributing; They will determine when UNO gets vaccines
 - Student activities on Campus
 - In-person: Must request through event request still

Approval of Minutes – Moved to March, 2021

Officer Reports

- President's Report
 - Statement with SGUNO/Faculty Senate
 - Following our meeting last month, I emailed Chancellor Gold a summary of our discussion about our desire to see a campus statement on recent events. I am also in collaboration with Faculty Senate, Student Government, and UComm about a joint statement expressing our commitment to campus values and diversity. The three presidents also have agreed to start meeting monthly in hopes of collaborating more on campus-wide issues, which I am very excited about.
 - Working w/ HR on Admin Professional Days
 - SAC has partnered with HR to support activities surrounding Administrative Professionals Day. UNMC has had robust programming for this event for several years and are including UNO administrative staff this year. There will be a series of workshops/speakers. I will be introducing Aileen on the final event. The Executive Committee also voted to send some of our leftover plastic cups to be given away as prizes. Exec also approved a \$150 budget to buy a few larger prizes (such as blankets/mugs) from the UNO Bookstore.
 - Please share these events with all administrative professionals in your areas
 - Attachment: PDF of initial email that went out about Admin Professionals Day
 - Student Honors Convocation
 - I have been asked to speak as part of the virtual Student Honors Convocation. I will be congratulating honored students on behalf of staff. I'm very excited for SAC to be a part of this ceremony for the first time. I will record my message in March.
 - Committees
 - As you may have seen in the campus announcement, I am honored to be representing SAC as a member of the committee reviewing proposals for the Campus Strategic Investment in Race, Class, Equity, and Social Justice. I also continue to serve on a number of standing and ad hoc campus committees, including the IS&T Dean's Search Committee.
 - Banquet
 - We will be hosting a virtual, real-time banquet this year. We will honor our 2020 and 2021 awardees. More details to come soon.
 - Fidelity Planning and Events
 - Join Jason Chronic, our Fidelity Retirement Planner, for a quick Q&A session or meet him individually.
 - Email flier is attached.

- Digital engagement strategies
 - Health & Wellbeing
 - On-demand sessions available until April 30th:
<https://nirsa.net/nirsa2021/program/on-demand-sessions/>
 - Live sessions available: <https://nirsa.net/nirsa2021/program/live-sessions/>
 - Virtual facility tours: <https://nirsa.net/nirsa2021/facility-tours/>
- Strategic Planning & Culture Chair
 - No new updates.

Other Reports

- Reports from SAC Representatives on UNO-wide committees

Discussion

- Elections
 - Start recruiting
 - 16 open seats
 - Nominations in March
 - Elections in April
 - Officer elections
 - Committee chairs; Directors; Vice-President; President-Elect
 - Members whose term is ending (2020-2021)
 - Bryson Barth
 - Amanda Buker
 - Yuriko Doku
 - Melissa Eckstein
 - Traci Fullerton
 - Vanessa Hatfield-Reeker (will be past-president for 2021-2022)
 - Nikki Hecht
 - Adam Hilt
 - Brevan Jorgenson
 - Heike Langdon
 - Courtney Luxon
 - Sarah McGrath
 - Lisa Medina
 - Amy Skolaski
 - Michael Smith
 - Alex Zatzabal Boryca
- Annual banquet

- Give away awards – ex: SAC, Above & Beyond, HR Awards, recognize members
- Tentative date: April 22nd 4-6 P.M.

Announcements

For the Good of the Order

Adjourn – 10:30 A.M.