



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

# STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL

## SAC General Meeting Notes

May 13, 2025 – 9:00 AM in CEC, Rm 231, in person or [Zoom](#)

**This meeting will be held under [Chatham House Rule](#). Topics and decisions will be fully and accurately represented but not individual speakers.**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions
  - A. Shout out to Chris Scott for his birthday!
- III. [Approval of Minutes](#) (click link)
- IV. Guest Speaker:
  - A. Victoria Kohout
    - 1. Nearing conclusion of the session!
      - a. Legislative Session calendar:  
<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/#:~:text=Legislative%20Session%20Calendar>
    - 2. Budget bill moved to round 2 of the debate, vote on Thursday 5.15.25, then to Gov. Pillen. Governor has the ability to line-item veto at that time.
    - 3. Nebraska Forecasting Board – appt by Gov: set forecast for projected revenue for the state.
    - 4. \$4M increase in 1<sup>st</sup> year of biennium in costs. 2<sup>nd</sup> year of biennium: \$8M increase in costs.
    - 5. There may be a Special Session. (Why would this happen? Revenues are worse than what they forecasted, and the legislature is reconvening to discuss and make more adjustments.) UNO would be given a specific budget. If a Special Session occurs, there may be mid-year adjustments.
    - 6. 2025 Biennial Report:  
<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/#:~:text=2025%20Biennial%20Budget%20Report>
      - a. Pg. 24 (of 299) is where University of Nebraska, as a state agency, is first listed in budget.
  - B. Chase Kratochvil
    - 1. Just getting started on the budget process at the Federal level
      - a. House of Representatives and Senate will meet separately and come together to discuss cuts
    - 2. Projecting huge cuts to many federal programs (estimated 40-60%)
    - 3. Pace of 'Dear Colleague letters' has waned
      - a. Over 215 Exec Orders written; at least 100 of them in the courts. Most of the EO's will be held up in court, limiting what they can / can't do



- b. Referring to Office of the President - Don't anticipate taking on any legal challenges, can't afford not to.
- c. NU System has already seen about \$70M loss in federal funding
- d. Dr. Gold will likely make strong recommendations to each Chancellor; but it will still be up to each Chancellor to make decisions related to their respective campuses.
- e. FNA rates are tied up in courts with temporary restraining orders. Expect to see a new bill capping FNA rates for all universities.
- f. \$40M in federal research awards. At this time, UNO doesn't know how much will be cut but we can likely expect between 25-75% cuts.
  - i. UNO doesn't rely on federal funding as much as UNMC and UNL. UNO relies more heavily on tuition revenue.

V. Officer Reports

A. President's Report

- 1. Awards Banquet was well attended!
- 2. Seven awards were given.
  - a. Those who were nominated, but did not win, received a copy of the nomination written about them
- 3. Parental Leave Policy – effective July 1.
  - a. The 4 qualifying events are:
    - i. care for a newborn
    - ii. period of incapacity/prenatal care/serious health condition related to childbearing
    - iii. care for a birth parent
    - iv. adoption.
- 4. People Are Everything Sunset Plan – effective May 30<sup>th</sup>
- 5. UNOP meeting recap – met with Dr. Gold 5/9/25.
  - a. Improvement for staff that are not compensation based.
  - b. Any ideas should be sent to the SAC Suggestion Box and/or Dr. Gold directly
- 6. Campus Beautification
  - a. Adirondack chairs placed all over campus. There will be 30 chairs in total.
  - b. Additional ideas?
  - c. Working with Mason in MarComm to identify more “sit and stay awhile” areas, including walking paths

B. President-Elect's Report – no report

C. Vice President's Report – no report

D. Treasurer's Report – no report

E. Community Engagement Chair

- 1. Acts of Service Passport still live! Will end on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Anyone who has completed any Service, please submit! There are give-aways and prizes! Approx 10-15 have participated.
- 2. Acts of Service Passport: <https://www.unomaha.edu/staff-advisory-council/representation/committees/community-engagement/acts-of-service-passport.php>

F. Events Committee Chair



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- a. CWS Tickets for staff! Cost - \$15 per ticket (outfield block of seat)
      - i. Monday, 6/16 - 1pm (Game 7)
      - ii. Tuesday, 6/17 - 1pm (Game 9, most availability; up to 200 tickets possible)
      - iii. Wednesday, 6/18 - 1pm (Game 11, also Teacher Appreciation Game)
    - b. Committee will be sending out a survey
    - c. Suggested to cap the number of tickets per employee
    - d. Also to be considered – transportation, parking, using paid time off vs First Friday hour, childcare, paper tickets
  - G. Professional Development Chair
    - 1. Reviewing application process to ensure only relevant information is being gathered
    - 2. Reviewing recipient process for clarity with instructions of utilizing funds
  - H. Diversity, Equity, Access, Inclusion Chair
    - 1. Great response rate for Pay Schedule survey – over 490 responses (enough to be statistically significant)
      - a. Over 50% responded with a preference for biweekly pay
    - 2. Developing plan to summarize and distribute results with recommendations for the UNO/NU System
    - 3. Going forward, it is expected that the DEAI committee will continue as planned and written in the bylaws
  - I. Strategic Planning & Culture Chair – no report
- VI. Campus Events & Announcements
- A. SAC Happy Hour!
  - B. Thank you to those whose 3 year term is ending
  - C. Thank you to those who served on the Executive Council
- VII. For the Good of the Order
- VIII. Adjournment