

## **University Life Committee**

October 6, 2016

Minutes

### **Members Present**

Robert Bartsch, Rishabh Bothra, Judy Chapmon, Keith Daniels, Victoria Duffoo, Allen Hill, Michele Kahn, Nikki Olivas, David Rachita, Faiza Zalila, Sana Zeidan

### **Members Absent**

Nichole Eslinger, Clarke Iakovakis, Christine Kovic, Lisa Lacher, Bazlur Rashid

### **Alternates Present**

Pat McCormack, Kristi Randolph, Rosana Salinas, Anthony Scaturro, Mary Ann Shallberg, Caye Trahan, Christine Walther

### **Alternates Absent**

Ashley Green, Sang Lu

### **Guest**

Lei Wu

## **Action Item**

The chair asked if there were any changes or corrections to the September 08, 2016 minutes. With no changes or corrections noted, a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented.

## **Information/Discussion Items**

### **Smoking Policy**

Dr. Bartsch reviewed UHCL's smoking policy with the committee (see attached PowerPoint). He said currently UHCL has a smoke free campus including e-cigarettes except for designated areas (four on the north part of campus and two on the south part of campus). Smoking is allowed in personal vehicles, but not in university vehicles and does not apply to University Forest apartments. Dr. Bartsch said in 2012 a survey was sent to faculty, staff and students. The survey contained three choices to choose from (1) smoke free campus (2) continue with the current policy (3) smoke free campus except in parking lots. The results were 47.5% in favor of a smoke free campus, 39.5% in favor of continuing the current policy and 13% in favor of smoke free except for parking lots. Dr. Bartsch said UH is now a smoke free campus and one of the reasons for this was to help with some of the research grants that they were doing. Dr. Bartsch said after checking with the Office of Sponsored Programs, the smoking policy does not affect UHCL's ability to receive grants. After further discussion Dr. Bartsch said he will bring a proposal for a smoke free campus for this committee to review at the November. After ULC has reviewed the

committee will take this information back to their constituent groups for feedback. Mary Ann will provide literature for the committee to review at the November meeting regarding the benefits of going to a smoke free campus.

### **Student Transportation**

Dr. Bartsch said he has received multiple requests to discuss student transportation and met with Dr. Staples this summer regarding the issue. David Rachita said currently we have a single van that runs from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. David Rachita said the van will seat 12 students and they try to maintain two drivers. Currently they have one driver and they are having difficulty finding a second driver that can work the scheduled hours. David said the van breaks down on a regular basis and when the wheelchair lift is not working they are not able to service the students. Students that ride the van on a regular basis are notified via email when the van is down. David said the preference would be to have a transportation department and contract this service out. This would give us more buses and drivers. After further discussion the committee agreed to have Andrew Reitberger attend the November meeting to discuss cost issues and options for funding student transportation. Dr. Bartsch asked the committee to send any specific questions to him and he will forward them to Andrew.

### **Recycling**

Dr. Bartsch is waiting on the results from the meeting with Dr. Fritz and Ward Martaindale.

### **Results of the COACHE Survey**

This survey was done for faculty to look at morale and service issues pertaining to women faculty. The results have been released to the faculty for review. Dr. Bartsch will present a summary to the committee at the November meeting.

### **Gender Neutral Bathrooms**

David Rachita met with Ward Martaindale and he said there are no places in the Delta, Arbor or Bayou Building to easily and safely set up gender neutral bathrooms. All of the new buildings being constructed will have gender neutral/family friendly bathrooms in them. There is one gender neutral bathroom located in the SSCB building. David said it was originally built as a lab bathroom, but was never utilized for that and it is unlocked and usable.

### **Other Business**

Dr. Bartsch said last year the university went through a Foundations of Excellence exploration and assessment. He said we can look at their recommendations at our next meeting to see if there is something this committee would like to pursue.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned.