

UI Staff Council Executive Committee
Wednesday, September 4, 2024
2:30 – 4:30 pm
2520B - UCC

Attendance

Present

Neda Barrett, Nima Chaudhary, Brett Cloyd, Makur Jain, Molly James, James Jorris, Sam Mitchell, David Stenerson, Donna Wong-Gibbons

Administrative Liaison

Kellie Digmann

Approval of UISC Executive committee meeting minutes

Minutes approval:

- August 7, 2024 minutes of the UISC Executive Committee Meeting – motion by James, second by Stenerson, approved with no edits.

Discussion topics

September Staff Council Meeting (UISC) Agenda

Jain shared the agenda for next week's UISC meeting. Minutes will only be taken for the Health Care update and the Community Outreach updates. The meeting is for Staff Councilors only.

Team Coaching

Jain shared updates for upcoming team coaching for the Executive Committee. Topics that will be discussed include consensus building, handling requests from constituents, communication styles, and helping committees meet goals. We will also discuss ways to best use the opportunities to meet with the UI President and Provost. Coaching will consist of two 90-minute visits to the Executive Committee meetings in October and December (More information about [UI HR's Team Coaching](#)).

Child Care Needs

The committee had an extensive conversation about the availability of affordable childcare for UI staff. The [Family Issues Charter Committee](#) has researched this issue for the past several years, and there has been a joint childcare task force collaboration with Faculty Senate. Diana Kremzar works on Family Services for UIHR and is scheduled to meet with UI Staff Council in February. Executive Committee will invite her to a future meeting to learn more about the challenges staff experience. Additional resources: [UI's Childcare Resources page](#) | [Iowa Child Care Connect](#)

Considering UI Benefits: Any possibility of receiving a discount on Amazon Prime for UI Staff?

Cloyd will touch base with Tammy Paulus in purchasing (following the meeting, learned that this is not available in current contract)

DEI Committee Award, Celebration, Name Change to AOD

Chaudhary and James updated the Executive Committee. Staff Council's DEI Committee will change its name to Access, Opportunity and Diversity Committee (AOD). The Executive Committee approves this name change. Chaudhary and Teri Schnelle are currently the co-chairs. The award can be part of the University's annual award reception. There was much discussion about the future of the DEI Celebration

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which has been held in the spring for many years. The event has required extensive time commitment from the committee. Chaudhary and James suggested that it might be a better use of staff resources to explore other ways to support staff's work with AOD by working with other campus entities (1st Gen, UI Veterans, Cultural Centers, International Writing Program). Jorris asked for some additional review. Are there other events UISC could help support (financially and with staff time)? The AOD will explore these possibilities and report back to the October UISC Executive Committee meeting. There is also a UI Shared Governance meeting on September 24, with Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate and Professional Student Government, and Faculty Senate. Issues related to access, opportunity and diversity will be part of the discussion topics.

CapitalCity Fruit Collaboration.

UISC decided to not go forward with this solicitation.

Pecha Kucha Funding Request Vote

Request for an Obermann Working Group event looking at Mental Health Crisis in Higher Education. Including in the request was this language, "Pecha Kucha is Japanese for chit-chat. Pecha Kucha emphasizes storytelling via imagery over words. This fun, interactive, and highly engaging workshop style is used to elevate the voices of our campus staff "mental health." This request for \$1,200 was approved.

Melanie Kuchna Funding Request Vote

Request will support the UI Health and Well-Being Fair and the on-line wellness store. This request for \$8,000 was approved. Funding should be transferred after UISC receives its annual funding allocation.

United Way Heartlanders Campaign

Staff Council is partnering with United Way and the Iowa Heartlanders for the November 15th hockey game at the Mediacom Extreme Arena. Tickets will sell for \$20 which includes a \$5 donation to United Way for each ticket. Digmann will look into handling these transactions and if the United Way donations that are part of this offer are ok with UI rules. This is part of the United Way kickoff event on November 18th to be held at Old Capitol.

Adjournment

- Jain motioned to adjourn, James seconded; motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Next meeting: October 2 2024