



University
of Houston
Clear Lake

University Life Committee (ULC)

October 9, 2020 9:30– 11:00

Members In Attendance

Carol Bates, Cierra Davis, Kathleen Garland, Yousef Hamidi, Neeta Jambhekar, Angela Kelling, Brad McGonagle, Russell Miller, Jordan Mitchell, Violet Peterson, David Rachita, Scott Richardson, Randy Seevers, Christine Walther, Sana Zeidan

Members Absent

Usha Mathew, Shweta Sankpal

Alternates Present

Kelsie Cleboski, Jennifer Willis-Opalenik, Rosana Salinas, Walter Thompson

Guest

Mark Denney

Action Items

- Approval of the April 28, 2020 minutes
 - A copy of the minutes was not obtained prior to the meeting, and efforts will be made to find a copy of the minutes for approval at the November ULC meeting.
- Policy Approval Process- Brad McGonagle
 - Several HR policies are out of date and/or have sunset, and many of these policies do not follow UH System policy. Dr. McGonagle proposes adjusting UH System SAMs to fit UHCL, which would be adopted as MAPs. A motion was made and seconded to

establish a task force to adapt UH System SAMs to UHCL MAPs. (*motion passed unanimously*)

- Dr. McGonagle and Dr. Walther agreed to approach ULC members about serving on the task force after the meeting

Information/Discussion Items

- Freedom of Expression Policy- David Rachita
 - The policy was initially developed in response to a request from the UH System and needs to be updated to meet new System requirements. The MAP reflects language used by the UH System and significant collaboration with System legal. Within legal limits, the content of demonstrations cannot be restricted, but restrictions can be placed on demonstrations so that they are not disruptive. The purpose of the policy is to define what is disruptive (e.g., noise limits, limited locations and times for amplified sounds, requirements for sponsorship). There were requests for clarification about whether the policy could have a different name, how some details should be phrased/formatted, and definitions of hate speech within the policy, and language in the policy will be adjusted to establish which athletic fields/courts are included in approved areas for demonstrations. David Rachita will update ULC when he gets clarification.
- Diversity Position Statement- Scott Richardson
 - Dr. Richardson approached the Faculty Senate Executive Committee about developing a statement to be included in syllabi that expresses a commitment to inclusion and diversity. Dr. Richardson wrote and submitted a statement to FSEC, and FSEC edited that statement to reflect a statement written by Dr. Beth Merfish that had been distributed in HSH and language from UHCL's Strategic Plan and Vision, Mission, and Values. The statement is now going through Faculty Senate and ULC/shared governance for approval, and the statement has been shared with the Student Government Association for input.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 13, 2020 (Teams) from 9:30 – 11:00.