



# THE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW ORLEANS

## STAFF COUNCIL

#

**Thursday, August 15, 2019**  
**UC 208 at 10:00am**

- I. Call to Order: 10:05 A.M. by Kassie Thibodeaux, Staff Council President
- II. Approval of Minutes: Kassie Thibodeaux stated that the minutes for the June Staff Council meeting (as the July meeting was not held) still needed to be posted.
- III. Executive Committee Reports
  - a. President - Kassie Thibodeaux: no report
  - b. Vice-President: vacant
  - c. Treasurer: vacant
  - d. Recording Secretary: Kassie Thibodeaux reports that Kimberly Echols was appointed as Recording Secretary. The position was unopposed.
  - e. Corresponding Secretary: vacant
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Membership/Elections Committee: no report
  - b. Staff Concerns Committee

David Richardson read a Staff Concern that was submitted: During the water spout/storm that was reported on campus, why didn't the Tornado siren sound? The campus was put at risk.

Chief Day from the UNO Police responded that several things happened. The siren on top of Kirschman Hall was too faint due to a mechanical problem. Sodexo has fixed that issue. For the Library, the activation of the box failed. There was an issue with a bad backup battery. It was fixed, but failed 5 days later, so the whole unit has been sent back to the manufacturer. Chief Day said that a siren test will be done soon.

Ms.Thibodeaux mentioned that the siren couldn't be heard in the Recreation Center, which was especially concerning since Summer Camp was being held and there were kids on campus.

Mr. Richardson responded that the active shooter and tornado sirens are only for those that outside, not for those inside buildings.

Chief Day advised to make sure you have signed up for **Privateer Alerts**. The alert will even pop up on your computer if you are logged in as an employee. (Some at the meeting had seen this. Others had not even though they were signed in.)

Mr. Richardson said that alerts will also show on social media. Chief Day advised to download and sign up for the **Rave Guardian** app with your uno.edu address. It is a simple app to install. You will receive emergency alerts, and it will allow you to text emergency personnel, who are also able to pinpoint your location.

Mr. Richardson said a second Staff Concern had been submitted that he had just sent to the President about the Staff Council being the voice of university staff. He will report on the message and the President's response in entirety the next time.

- c. Events Committee: no report
- d. Awards Committee: no report

- V. New Business – Nominations for Councilors:  
Questions were asked about what is involved: Staff Councilors have voting rights. It is a 3-year term.  
Ms. Thibodeaux encouraged Staff Councilors to volunteer to be on the Executive Board. Currently, the Vice President, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary positions are open. You have to be a Staff Councilor to be nominated and serve on the Executive Board.
- VI. Old Business – sign-up for Committees: Ms. Thibodeaux also encouraged people to sign up for the Committees. While you must be a Staff Councilor to serve on the Executive Board, you only have to be a UNO staff member to serve on the Committee.  
It was mentioned that a description of the different committees and what they do on the Staff Council page would be helpful.  
Another expressed concern that they wished to participate in a committee, but the last time they did so, the Chair of the committee was not active so it was demoralizing, as the committee didn't do anything.
- VI. Next Meeting – **CORRECTION** to what was listed on the Agenda: The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 19 at 10am in UC 201C**.  
Ms. Thibodeaux hopes to get the chef from the new dining/catering company Chartwell to come to the next meeting to discuss their plans for UNO dining.  
Light refreshments will be served.

Erin Sutherland said an update on enrollment would also be appreciated. It will be after the 14<sup>th</sup> class day so the numbers will be official.

A concern was brought up about trash all around the Library and across campus. In some instances, the trash was just being mowed over. They said that the windows had recently been pressure washed but the trash wasn't picked up.

Career Services staff asked for donations of new or lightly used career wear for their Career Closet, a resource for students to get clothing for interviews/new jobs. They handed out flyers for the Career Closet opening, set for Tuesday, September 10, from 8am-6pm in UC 250. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be at 12:30pm.

They also handed out 20% off back to school coupons from JC Penny's, who is sponsoring a Suit Up event at their store in the Lakeside Shopping Center, September 29 from 5-8pm. Students and their parents receive 60% off merchandise.

Career Services is asking for faculty/staff volunteers who will also receive a discount.

Please contact [career@uno.edu](mailto:career@uno.edu) for more information.

VIII. Adjourn: Adjournment at around 10:45 am.

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