



THE UNIVERSITY *of*  
**NEW ORLEANS**

STAFF COUNCIL

# STAFF COUNCIL 10.20.2022

Approval of Minutes - [posted on website](#)

Guest Speaker: Matt Tarr, Vice President Research & Economic Development  
**What does the office of research do?**

**\*\* Presentation link on Agenda/Minutes page:**

**Key notes:**

International issues; govt now really sensitive about international people (specifically china, iran) put a lot of scrutiny on foreign visitors -- Even for our faculty members to visit other countries

Internal grants and awards are largely for faculty, but can be for staff too. It's more about the content about what's getting done than your position at the university.

Award for building research or artistic development (ABROAD) – specifically for staff or faculty to go abroad to learn from international partners. Ray Wang, was awarded this to go to Innsbruck to meet with library partners at the University of Innsbruck

New Faculty Research Institute – started about 5 years ago and offers support for new faculty

Student engagement is the best predictor of student success – 100 students is about a million dollar of revenue. If a student is involved, they meet people and know people on campus and are more likely to feel connected. They will come back to us with questions, and are more likely to stay. This is huge!

Keeping students employed on campus is crucial – if students work off campus they don't have as much flexibility with schedules etc.

Tolmas scholarship – large part of the funding comes from a trust, mentor page on undergrad research page (<http://uno.edu/research/student/mentors> )

## Executive Committee Reports

1. **President:** Randall Menard
  - i. **DEI Committee** – Currently working on tracking system for faculty/staff attendance to DEI events; additionally DEI has a new web page coming soon stay tuned
  - ii. **Institutional Effectiveness** – We will begin administrative department review in October.
  - iii. **Weave** – Review of Qualtrics survey will be posted with agenda/minutes. Weave committee with a new volunteer will begin to meet on Oct 24<sup>th</sup>) and begin preparing next cycle due November 7th
  - iv. **Budget Committee** – everything addressed at budget committee has been previously mentioned in Staff Council meetings with the President or State of the University Address – no new info
  - v. **Faculty Senate and Student Council** – current goal is looking at new awards for faculty and staff on the college level.
2. **Vice-President:** Edgar Avila Jr.
3. **Treasurer:** Willis Brewer – Our Budget this year is \$2750 and we have not had any expenses yet
4. **Recording Secretary:** Coleen Maidlow
5. **Corresponding Secretary:** Julie Landry

## Committee Reports

1. **Membership & Election Committee:** Do you want to volunteer?? Please message Edgar if you can volunteer!
2. **Events Committee:** Participation in Homecoming & Door Decorating Contest – info on both coming soon
3. **Awards Committee Service with Jazz** August – April Gremillion September will be announced next meeting!
4. **Wellness Committee**
5. **Weave** – committee will meet at end of October
6. **Staff Concerns & Opportunities Committee:**

### Suggestion/Concern 1:

I would like to suggest that UNO can also adapt four days a week with 32 hours of work, like these universities.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/05/04/focus-fridays-alabama-university-offer-four-day-weeks>

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/unijobs/article/us-universities-mull-adopting-new-york-college-s-four-day-week/>

Some studies show that countries like Norway and Denmark which have way shorter work hours are most productive countries in the world and they enjoy better work life balance. In addition, many workers feel less stress at work due to shorter work hours and it leads to decrease the usage of sick leaves. Other studies show that four days a

week with 32 hours of work can recruit more talent and retain current employees.

Please take a look these Youtube which explains positive effect of 4 days work week.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyVfUaXyyqo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xjggCgoxElw>

Thank you so much

**Answer from Dr. Nicklow:**

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to respond, Greta. I appreciate the focus on work/life balance. As you know, this is one reason we offered the campus telework policy. I am open to discussing a 4-day, 32 hr/wk, which would constitute a 20% reduction to the work week. However, we should all be aware that such a decision would also need to be accompanied by a 20% reduction in salary according to Article VII §14 of the Louisiana constitution, which disallows funds being given away for work not performed. Additionally, students are currently served 5 days/wk, and this alternative would necessitate changing the academic calendar in the future. Again, I'm open to the discussion further, but all parties should understand the implications.

**Suggestion/Concern 2:**

**Question:** Can we donate to the University via payroll deduction

**Answer:** This is possible; payroll is looking at the form and more information to come about how to do this in workday

**Suggestion/Concern 3:**

**Question:** Are staff awards open to classified staff

**Answer:** per HR yes they are, in process of updating website

## Old Business

1. Employee Annual Training – reminder to start and complete your training which is due by November 8, 2022. Contact Doug in HR with questions.
2. Basketball Season Tickets on Sale, information will be attached to minutes. Contact Vince @7243 for more information.

## New Business

1. Homecoming Week Activities – week of Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. Homecoming is the 12<sup>th</sup>!
2. Registration for Spring 2023 begins October 31<sup>st</sup>!
3. Farmer's Market – Chartwell's has started their farmer's market in front of the UC again. For now it will be once per month, and they're hoping to link it with our pay day. They will increase frequency in Spring.

4. [Jazz at Sandbar started on 10/5,](#)

**Here is the full lineup for the fall season of Jazz at the Sandbar:**

- Oct. 5th Drummer Jason Marsalis Tribute to Ellis Marsalis
- Oct. 12th Jazz Faculty Showcase: Saxophonist/flutist Brent Rose & Agua
- Oct. 19th Bassist Chris Severin
- Oct. 26th Artist-in-Residence Pianist Lynne Arriale
- Nov. 2nd Drummer Gerald French
- Nov. 9th Reedist Byron Asher
- Nov. 16th Roger Lewis

**Guest Speaker II: Tim Duncan, Football Vote with Students. –**

\*\* presentation linked under the minutes.

1. **Question:** Will staff / dependents have to pay the additional fee?
  - i. **Yes**
2. **Question:** How many students need to vote for it to count?
  - ii. **No minimum number, we will accept the simple majority**
3. **Question:** Where would we play before we have a stadium?
  - iii. **Tad Gormley**
4. **Question:** Where will the stadium be built?
  - iv. **If the stadium is built from separate money, it will be near the arena on the lakefront.**
5. **Question:** What happens if it's a no vote
  - v. **There won't be football**
6. **Question:** will the fee be charged in the summer?
  - vi. **Yes**

**Next Meeting: November 17th at 10:00 AM Speaker Counseling Services!**

**Chat:**

10:14:03 From Gertraud Griessner to Everyone:

I am happy to say we have the first library intern from Innsbruck on campus right now.

10:14:17 From Julie Landry to Everyone:

<https://www.uno.edu/research/office/research-council/grant-program#innov>

10:14:22 From Christie Thomas to Everyone:

Thanks, Gertraud, was going to say the same.

10:14:32 From Julie Landry to Everyone:

That's wonderful!

10:25:59 From Julie Landry to Everyone:

<https://www.uno.edu/research/student/mentors>

10:31:19 From Tresa Banks-Lewis to Everyone:

Students may also be able to receive academic credit for the paid internship

10:36:32 From Shannon Williamson to Everyone:

We are selling some ADORABLE tshirts to support the Krewe of UNO parade. Would make a great Christmas gift: [https://www.customink.com/fundraising/where-have-you-beignet-all-my-life?utm\\_campaign=desktop-post-launch-v3&utm\\_content=where-have-you-beignet-all-my-life&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=copy-link](https://www.customink.com/fundraising/where-have-you-beignet-all-my-life?utm_campaign=desktop-post-launch-v3&utm_content=where-have-you-beignet-all-my-life&utm_medium=social&utm_source=copy-link)

10:39:46 From Julie Landry to Everyone:  
staffcouncil@uno.edu

<https://www.uno.edu/staff-council/suggestions>

10:41:46 From Julie Landry to Everyone:  
<https://www.uno.edu/service-with-jazz/about>

10:44:01 From Robert Yates EKL Library to Everyone:  
UNO Friends of the Library Book Sale November 3, 4, and 5th starting at 10:00 AM each day.  
<https://libguides.uno.edu/friends/friends>

10:44:10 From Julie Landry to Everyone:  
Thank you, Robert!

10:52:22 From Shannon Williamson to Everyone:  
@Robert, are you taking any book donations ahead of the sale? When would you need those by/ ;\_0

10:54:40 From nmukherj to Everyone:  
The Friends of the Library take books year round. Right now they are preparing for the Book Sale on November 3, 4, 5. If you have books to donate please hold on to them until the sale is over. Thanks, Norma

10:55:04 From Shannon Williamson to Everyone:  
thanks norma!

10:58:13 From Brian McDonald to Everyone:  
what has the community feedback been like with residents

11:01:01 From Carol Lunn to Everyone:  
For employees (or their dependents) who enroll in classes, would the new fee be waived or would they have to pay an additional \$900-1,200 a year depending upon their hours?

11:02:07 From Coleen Maidlow to Everyone:  
wait is the fee \$400 per credit hour, or total per semester? I thought it was by semester

11:02:19 From Liz to Everyone:  
how many students need to vote for the vote to count? do dual enrollment students vote?

11:03:26 From dbauer to Everyone:  
where will the stadium be built

11:03:48 From tabacino to Everyone:  
what happens if it is a NO vote

11:04:03 From Kate Donsbach to Everyone:  
If Dual Enrollment students have a UNO email account which I believe they do, they should be able to participate in the vote.

11:04:14 From Ame Flynn to Everyone:  
will the fee be charged in the summer semester? or just fall and spring?

11:04:41 From tabacino to Everyone:  
will football play before stadium is built

11:05:04 From Tim Duncan to Everyone:  
Potentially yes, at Tad Gormley

11:05:12 From Julie Landry to Everyone:  
Thank you, everyone

## Participants

<p>Julie Landry Svetlana Pizzati 15042806836 Randall Menard David Muscarello Willis eland Randall Menard Dennis Baker kbmarti1 Brian McDonald Lisa Grass scalamar Robert Yates EKL Library Toni Slessinger (she/her) nmukherj Kassie Rami LeBlanc Popich jhebert1 Amy King Tajuanda Montreuil Liz Jody Samartha Mudigere Girish Gertraud Griessner Tim Duncan dbauer bbarras Nerolie Rayson</p>	<p>Karen Paisant Matt Tarr Debby Charrier David Richardson sfvarble Jaime McSkimming Colt M Stubbs Mike Esordi Colm Joyce Mark Pyle Donald Harbison Samuel Gladden rkern Cara Traczek Julienne Ricchiazzi Carol Mitton Kristy Askam Brooke Duncan Colby Stoever- Tracy Franklin Aneta Komendarczyk Matthew Thompson Cliff Golz Britney Butler kginsber@uno.edu Erin Sutherland Randall Menard rgernon kazuakimai Eileen Dooley</p>	<p>aburrell Amanda Robbins# she/her/hers Shannon Williamson Ayana Morales Tiffany Soublet Matthew Thompson Mariana Z. Martinez Kate Donsbach Enjilee Bailey Coleen Maidlow LaTasha Gonzales Karen Bradley tabacino Ame Flynn Xiang Chen Fangfang Hao Elaine Ramond Christie Thomas Karen jvillava Tresa Banks-Lewis Carol Lunn Amelie Reeves Janet Fleming Erik Wahl Brittany Garrison Cara Traczek Nancy Biggio mhayden</p>
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