## Employee Advisory Council

The University of Texas System

### 2020-2021 Officers



Nyma Shah, Chair UT MD Anderson nashah@mdanderson.org



Peter-James Ehimika, Vice-Chair UT Rio Grande Valley peterjames.ehimika@utrgv.edu



Trudy Jacobs, Secretary UTHealth-Houston Trudy.Jacobs@uth.tmc.edu



Elisa Cuellar, Historian UT San Antonio Elisa Perkins@utsa.edu

Executive Sponsor: Julie Goonewardene, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor, Chief Talent and Innovation Officer

### UTS EAC Website:

www.utsystem.edu/sites/ employee-advisorycouncil



# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

### One System, One Voice

Meeting Summary for October 2, 2020 via Zoom (Virtual Meeting)

### Meeting Summary:

Chancellor Milliken visit:

- •Main focus was how we were able to continue working in a virtual world. At the start of the pandemic only about 19% was able to teach virtually and now the majority of our faculty are teaching at home.
- •He truly values that our work has continued throughout this pandemic.
- •Important message from the chancellor Talent is universal, opportunity is not.
- •Our priorities are to preserve what we have today and to continue to educate Texans.
- •Important book that he read over the summer and encouraged everyone to read: How to Be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi.

Special Guest – Lee Coffee, Diversity:

- •Emphasized that everyone is different and unique with this statement: "different like me" •Easier to blame the victim than to fix the system
- •Learn to KUS: Keep your power, Use your power, Share your power

Sub-Committees for 2020-2021 were announced. Each committee met and determined their Chair and Vice Chair for FY21:

- Diversity and Inclusion: Chair: Shanese Williams (UT Tyler); Vice Chair: Johnny Reyes (UT System)
- Campus Safety: Chair: Larrimie Gordon (UT Austin); Vice Chair: Jorge Vazquez (UT El Paso)
- **Telecommuting and Future Work**: Chair: Tilly Clark (UT Medical Branch); Vice Chair: Brittany Kruse (UT MD Anderson)
- Mentoring and Coaching: Chair: Sandra Catlett (UT Austin); Vice Chair: Richard Acosta (UT Permian Basin)

#### University Updates:

- Most locations are still operating mostly on a work from home basis with a few in that have adapted a hybrid approach. The WFH will persist until Spring 2021 for most institutions.
- Most institutions have also created some kind of task force or committee to address racial and social injustices to create a community that is unified.

#### On the Horizon

- •Next Board of Regents Meeting: November 18-19, 2020
- •Next EAC Meeting: January 8, 2021







