Employee Advisory Council

The University of Texas
System

2021-2022 Officers



Peter-James Ehimika, Chair
UT Rio Grande Valley
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Brittany Kruse, Vice-Chair UT MD Anderson bccampbell@mdanderson.org



Trudy Jacobs, Secretary
UTHealth-Houston
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Larrimie Gordon, Historian UT Austin Ig@utexas.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 THIRTEEN INSTITUTIONS. UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES.

One System, One Voice

Meeting Summary for October 8, 2021 via Zoom (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting Summary:

This was our first meeting of FY22 where we gave an overview of what EAC is and a rundown of committees for the new members and took some time to get introductions from every representative that was on the call.

System Update – Matt Mendoza

- Goals are to serve, but a bigger point is to listen to pain points at each institution.
- Biggest concern now is return to the office and when that will happen for each of the institutions.
- UT System will be returning to work on November 1, 2021. Telework will be the same as it was previously, where people are allowed to work from home one day a week.
- UT System is heavily focused on diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the institution.
- Mentoring and coaching is another large area of focus for UT System and how to integrate it within each institution.
- Modernization of education. System will continue with the internship program.

Speaker: Emil Kresl, Director of Learning and Development, UT Austin

Presented to us on ways to have successful committees and to stay on track.

- Two big concepts communication and facilitation
 - o In communication, be intentional, explicit and considerate
 - Look to leadership to know what is expected and make sure they are able to articulate expectations.
 - As a committee chair, it is important to make sure everyone is included and has a voice to add value.
 - In facilitation, create an essence of belonging, alignment, clear the path and produce results
 - Ask questions on specific topics to include everyone and make sure there are the right tools available.
 - Don't need to have 100% consensus, but do have to have and alignment with where the committee work will go and how to move forward.
 - The committee chair acts as a facilitator, but that doesn't mean that participants can sit back and do nothing.
 - "We do a lot of talking, but nothing happens" this is what happens a lot in committee work, but can change if everyone works together to make it happen.

Institution Updates:

- Most representatives feel that their institution has had great communication during the pandemic and kept everyone informed on changes or new rules.
- People continue to stay working for one of the institutions because they feel like they belong to a family.



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Sub Committees:

Each representative was assigned to a committee and met to determine chair and steps to move forward for this year.

Diversity and Inclusion: Executive sponsor, Larrimie Gordon

- Ana Thompson
- Corrine Warren
- Johnny Reyes
- Jorge Vazquez
- Latoya Oduniyi
- Stella Anderson

Campus Safety: Executive sponsor, Peter-James Ehimika

- Ana Maria Peredo-Manor
- Andrea Trease (Chair)
- Raul Hinojosa
- Shanese Williams
- Stephanie Shelby

Telecommuting and Future Work: Executive sponsor, Trudy Jacobs

- Albert Contreras
- Ebony Coleman-Glenn
- Iris Fierro
- Jennifer Klunk
- Philesha Evans
- Rebecca Mendez alternate
- Tilly Clark (Chair)

Mentoring and Coaching: Executive sponsor, Brittany Kruse

- Elisa Perkins Cuellar
- Frank Merlino
- John Shaffer
- Laura Rademacher
- Rebekah Sepulveda (Chair)
- Sandra Catlett (Vice Chair)

On the Horizon: New Executive Committee for FY22

- Next Board of Regents Meeting: November 17-18, 2021 this will be in person and the one chance someone from EAC will be able to present
 - Next EAC Meeting: January 14, 2022

