USAC Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting
THC 305
Meeting Zoom Link

Members Present: Rachel Weinburg-Rue, Cassie Price, Mike LaRue, Paul Just, Jamie Lynn Haskins, Fred Hagemeister, Susan Sokolsky, Derek Miller, Carole Yeatts, Kourtney Ennis, Carolyn Smart, Craig Buchbinder, Fred Dickers, Jaide Hinds-Clarke, Jeff Smith, Katy Olney, Kaylin Tingle, Nyreng Dut, Susan Wolski, Bill Galaspie

Members Absent: Taylor McNeilly, Francis Dickerson-King

1. Call to Order: Jamie Lynn Haskins called the Council meeting to order at 1:03 and welcomed staff and guests. She introduced the agenda and provided a brief overview of the Planning and Priorities Committee which would be revisited later in the meeting.

2. USAC Member Spotlight: Select USAC members provided a short bio on themselves and their role at University of Richmond.
   - Michael LaRue, Floater Manager, Heilman Dining Center – provided an overview of what he does during his job at HDC, and what he does in his downtime
   - Rachel Weinburg-Rue, Compliance Officer, Financial Aide Office
   - Jaide Hinds-Clarke, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Leadership Development, announced she is leaving UR to work for the Trevor Project. Her seat will be filled at an upcoming election.
   - Derek Miller gave provided information on the University’s MLK Celebration events happening over the next week. More information can be found on CCE’s website.

3. The Planning and Priorities Committee: Members of P&P joined USAC to provide an overview of the committee and insight into their operations. A bulleted summary of key points is below.
   - Rob Andrejewski, Director of Sustainability, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Nonprofit Studies
   - Linda Fairtile, Head, Parsons Music Library, Adjunct Lecturer of Music
   - Stephen Long, Associate Professor Political Science and Global Studies, Chair of the Faculty Senate
   - Mike Torquato, Manager, Landscape Services

Key Takeaways
- Committee members serve a three-year term
- There are 14 members in all comprised of faculty, staff, and students
Meetings are held bi-weekly
Some topics are discussed at the same time each year, others are ad hoc
Main area of focus this year has been the President’s strategic planning process
Always in discussion of enrollment trends, capital resources, operating forecasts, compensation and merit pool contributions
Received budgetary input from academic deans and big ideas with increase in endowment
This year they have been given more allowance to share committee discussion—working through mechanics of this attempt at information-sharing

4. Update on Staff Involvement-Guiding Lights Strategic Planning Process: Jamie Lynn updated attendees with information from Dara Gocheski, chief of staff to the president, that there has been a number of submissions from staff received via the online form to President Hallock’s guiding light strategic planning process. We have discussed having more signage for staff who do not regularly use email to inform them of this opportunity to share feedback.

5. Community Building Brainstorming: How do we engage more with upper level administration in conversation? Ideas were shared—meetings with the board/board representative; conversation with Shannon Sinclair about General Assembly legislation that impacts higher education; Spider Management

The open session was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The University Staff Advisory Council represents the needs of staff to senior administration and works proactively to make the University of Richmond an employer of choice.