



THE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW ORLEANS

STAFF COUNCIL

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Thursday, September 19, 2019
UC 201C at 10:00am

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- 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 August meeting had been posted.
- III. Executive Committee Reports
 - a. President - Kassie Thibodeaux: Congratulations to K. Echols Employee of the Month. Fall enrollment was 8231, up from last fall.
 - b. Vice-President: vacant
 - c. Treasurer: vacant. K. Thibodeaux hopes to have the finance report at the next meeting.
 - d. Recording Secretary: no report.
 - e. Corresponding Secretary: vacant
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership/Elections Committee: no report
 - b. Staff Concerns Committee

David Richardson read a staff concern that had been submitted and forwarded to Pres. Nicklow: 'The Staff Council should be the voice of the staff. There are subtle indicators that demonstrate that staff are not valued by the University – emails from the Provost and other offices will address Faculty and Students only; Promotions and new hires are not announced; The Convocation is during work hours when the staff might not be able to attend; The Staff Council President should be on stage for Commencement, as representation matters.

Pres. Nicklow replied: Apologies if the impression that staff were not valued was given. The University could not operate without the staff. The Convocation is during business hours to maximize faculty and employee attendance. The State of the Union and other events are held to keep employees abreast of what is happening and show appreciation. The University cannot announce staff promotions and new hires due to the sheer volume He is not aware of another university that has the Staff Council President on stage. In any

case, the current President has indicated she is not interested to be on stage. She does have access to the VIP seating, however. The University has implemented several things to show staff appreciation: Free parking since 2017; 3% or \$1500 salary increase; free tickets to events; Drink & Dialogue at the President's House; the State of the Union twice a year; the Privateer Fest and Fall Fest; the Faculty & Staff BBQ; Holiday Coffee and more. He invited staff to participate.

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

V. New Business – Nominations for Councilors:
No report

VI. Guest Speaker – Richard Curtis – Head of Chartwells at UNO, along with Danielle Frechette, the Marketing Director, came to provide updates on campus dining. (First, a thank you for the refreshments provided by Chartwells was given.)

The look and feel Galley is being refreshed, with plans for more renovation and seating options, and more food options. The Chick-fil-A will reopen soon to be a full-service and full menu restaurant.

NOLA Market serving PJ's coffee will open next to the subway. The hope is that it is accessible and frequented by the general neighborhood as well.

The former Starbucks location is now BUILD Pizza, which has been popular, with around 200 customers a day. It's been operating on a limited menu that is about to expand.

The markets around campus are being refreshed as well, with more and healthier options.

The Sandbar will have an expanded menu and more liquor options. Due to traffic patterns, the opening hours might change.

They hope to get ice cream options available soon, as parts were missing from the ice cream machine.

The catering menu for organizations, including student organizations, is being created. It will have a variety of options at different price levels, such as the cheapest option of popcorn and lemonade.

Efforts to become more green are being made – composting, less plastic, no Styrofoam, reusable take-out containers that you only need to buy once. You return and may get another one or a token. (Some more education about the take-out containers might be needed as the reusable containers are not getting returned.)

Feedback stations have been set up so that guests can provide instant feedback.

They hope to move to paper straws, though there is some resistance to that.

A suggestion of adding the cost of the take-away container to the meal plan options was made.

Announcements:

Megan Steinmetz, Marketing & Ticketing Ops Manager for Athletics, and Dena Freeman, Deputy Athletic Director spoke of the upcoming home games for basketball, and the options to buy season tickets through payroll deductions. (November 5 for Men's Basketball, Homecoming. November 12 for Women's Basketball.)

Career Services reminded attendees about the Suit Up even at JC Penney being held on Sunday, September 29. Volunteers would receive a discount. Raffles would be held.

VII. Old Business – N/A

VIII. Next Meeting – Thursday, October 17, 2019 Room 208

IX. Adjourn at 10:56 a.m.

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