

Employee Relations Organizations Meeting July 15, 2022 – 10:00am to 10:50am Zoom

Moderator: Debbie Long

Representatives Present:

ERC: Nury Magana, Katora Jones, Jean Perdicaris, Victoria Christian, Linda Johnson

ESC: Kaining Zhi, Yin Su, Selena Strong, Venus Claxton, Mary Judson

Representatives Absent: April Phetteplace, Lisa Hall, Rosalie Nelson, Janette Smith, Andrea Briggs, Kimberlee Norwood, Dorothea Owens, Bran Upchurch, Blake Dingman, Jackie Cotton, Lyncie Crawford, Nathan Tipton

Minutes Secretary: Debbie Long

Visitors: Dr. Michael Alston, Phebe McLin, Miriam Ghandi, Miki Sisco-Sankrityayan, Abigail Caritan, Phuong Nguyen, Olivia Ralph

Meeting Agenda and Minutes

10:00am Welcome and Attendance – Debbie Long

10:05am Introduction to new Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Team

Miriam Ghandi – Program Associate. Started December 2022. Intake Title IX intake, Title IX policy work, working on the commemorative months, accommodation for non-exempt employees, and part of the post doc hiring process. Coordinates the Diversity Certificate

Phebe McLin – came on board in March, involved in the hiring process for exempt level positions, investigates ADA, 504, and Title IX investigation.

Abigail Marbibi-Caritan – moved to OIED in May from Human Resources. Supports the office of OIED and manages the office flow.

Miki Sisco-Sanskrityayan – Senior Compliance Resolution Officer, lead investigator of complaints, provides Title IX training, and works in Taleo with hiring as well.



10:15am Changes to UTHSC COVID Procedure – Phuong Nguyen

Change in COVID procedure process. Human Resources is no longer calling employees directly when a COVID occurrence notice is submitted. Instead, we are transitioning to a process of employee and supervisor managed

10:40am Round Table

AFSA - Summer Commencement is Monday August 15th at 10:00am at the Canon Center. All Colleges go through commencement.

Venus Claxton will be taking on a new position as Associate Director of AFSA as of August 1st. Multiple positions open in CHIPS.

Forensic Center - New Forensic Fellows and summer students have started. Interviewing for the front office position.

Pharmacy – Lots of new hires! Seven total. Still engaging in the dean's search.

Tracy Gillespie- Grants Coordinator
Diandra Lee- Academic Student Success Coordinator
Carmen Coleman-Academic Affairs Coordinator
Sarka Beranova-Associate Professor-Pharmaceutical Sciences
Mercedes Tolbert-Director of Student Services
DeSha Bolden- Business Manager
Ashley Barnes- Administrative Aide

Research – Office of Sponsored Program has several new faces as well. Check our website for upcoming trainings and presentations.

Health Professions – new financial coordinator, elsewise business as usual.

Human Resources – HR Acuity business manager platform where supervisors are able to document and make forms and templates when concerns or positive items occur in their area. Helpful tool with policy attachments, form and letter creation, and documentation that is connect to IRIS for auto information population.

HR is hosting focus groups next week to hear from the staff on their thoughts around employee recognition and rewards, and learning and development desires.



Dentistry – Construction is still on going, faculty, students and patients are back this week.

Lots of personnel changes!

Congratulations to:

Dewana Oliver as Education Technology Specialist in Administration

Katrina Parnell as HR Coordinator in Administration

Hala Abutineh Operations Manager in Clinical Operations

Faculty Promotions:

Dr. Vinay Jain promoted to Professor

Dr. Rajasingh Johnson promoted to Professor

Dr. Rebecca Mayall promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Vrushali Abhyankar promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Ammaar Abidi promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Lesley Binkley promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. William Callahan promoted to Associate Professor

Welcome to UTHSC College of Dentistry

LaSaundra Pirtle Administrative Coordinator Dean Office

Miranda Smith Revenue Cycle Coordinator Clinical Operations

Sufa Mufti Administrative Program Support I AEGD

Clarice Law Eyre Chair & Associate Professor Pediatric Dentistry

Community Oral Health

Valencia Washington Administrative Assistant Oral Surgery

Martha Kori Clinical Dental Assistant AEGD

Jesus Monroy Clinical Dental Assistant AEGD

Eboni Eaton Clinical Dental Assistant AEGD

Happy Retirement to:

Kim Lee-Mitchell Clinical Dental Assistant Orthodontics