



# THE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW ORLEANS

## STAFF COUNCIL

### Staff Council 07-29-2021

- I. **Approval of minutes** – Last month’s minutes were short and sweet: just the appointing of new officers for staff council, and the vacancy for staff council president for which Randall was nominated.

Thank Kassie for her diligent work over the years – She’s taking a much deserved break with her family today!

- II. **Executive Committee Reports**

Treasury – Account Balances

- No budget yet for this year. Assuming the same budget as last year \$2750.
- Foundation account: \$350 and \$10,242 (We can’t spend the big amount though) \*\*
- Credit union balance: \$5.43 (need to get this account reinstated)

- III. **Committee Reports:**

No active committees & reports at the moment. We are working to get the bylaws sorted out so we can fill up the committees. More on this soon. The staff concerns link is active and the email is cleaned up so we’ll easily be able to see communication. We’re looking for volunteers and participation on the committees!

**Staff Concerns:** Two concerns came through the email between this month and last meeting, both about the Delta Variant. Please see **addendum 1** for President Nicklow’s response.

- IV. **New Business:**

#### **Executive Committee introductions & Goals for Staff Council:**

**President – Randall:** Happy Thursday! I’m Randall Menard, Workday Trainer. It is my extreme pleasure to serve all of you as the staff council President. Our main goal on staff council this year is we want to have fun! Let’s smile! Use me as a “listening board” – want to increase attendance and participation at council, and am happy to listen. I’m interested in positive pro-active approach – not just complaints but opportunities and solutions.

Main goal is to update bylaws, second goal is to fill vacancy on committees. I hope everyone participates if they can: committees, councilmembers etc. I am being the change I want to see. We’ll be having

conversation with Colby about SACS & what role Staff Council can play in that soon. Going to set up our goals to match the mission of the university. We'll want volunteers to participate in that. If you have questions, concerns, please email us at the staff council email.

**Vice President: Joy Ballard – The Jovial:** Assistant direct of Student involvement and Leadership office. Works with SGA, worked here for 3 years. Oversees committees for staff council – which are rather empty right now. Working with HR to get open councilor positions. Should be able to announce open positions next meeting. Will take care of staff concerns until that committee is filled. I'm excited for more people to be involved on council!

**Treasurer: Willis Brewer – The Wonderful:** Campus Bursar, Master of Accounts!

**Recording Secretary: Coleen Maidlow – The Courageous:** I work in the Intensive English Language Program in the International Department. I've been on campus since 2013 and I'm most excited to connect across campus and work with people in different departments. I'm excited to be your Staff Council note-taking wizard!

**Julie Landry – The Joyous:** Working on campus since 2018 in the Office of Research. Very excited to work on communicating across campus. Goals are communication based: I'd like to send out calendar invitations for the whole year to help with planning and scheduling. Revamp website. Using sharepoint to organize documents. Worked with Randall to clear out staff council email to make it useable

**Overall Goals:** Been working the past month to get everything sorted, turned over. Increase transparency, helping new employees know who to go to. We want to help build a culture where people feel comfortable and supported. We have a lot of people moving to New Orleans and we can help facilitate that transition and make them introduce them to the local community and culture. A big focus on communication and sharing information. We'll start sending out surveys to get insight and comments about things you'd like to see happen, find out topics the staff are interested in. Working on guest speaker list for each meeting. Hoping to see more people (and see your zoom faces!!! Tiffany mentioned put on that make up, get gussied up and turn on those zoom cameras!)

**Any other old business?** – Braylin asked if Medicaid employees are allowed to participate and attend staff council. They'll be included in the next round of meeting invites.

Vaccines available on campus on august 11 – august 13 – august 16. Can staff and faculty go to these? – yes! See zoom chat info in **addendum 2**.

## Addendum 1: Staff Concerns & Response:

**Recipient Data:**

**Time Finished:** 2021-07-26 15:10:24 CDT

**ResponseID:** R\_XldKGwwH81u0nsd

**Link to View Results:** [Click Here](#)

**URL to View Results:**

[http://neworleans.co1.qualtrics.com/CP/Report.php?SID=SV\\_2mlZNeqO72D4EJ&R=R\\_XldKGwwH81u0nsd](http://neworleans.co1.qualtrics.com/CP/Report.php?SID=SV_2mlZNeqO72D4EJ&R=R_XldKGwwH81u0nsd)

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**Response Summary:****Suggestion/Concern:**

With the statewide rise in COVID cases due to the Delta variant, what plans are in place to keep the campus community safe? UNO has no vaccine requirement, no testing requirements or protocols and is supposed to be "returning to normal operations" for the fall semester. How is this going to work?

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**Response from President:**

**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2021 1:23 PM

**To:** Elizabeth F. Land <[eland@uno.edu](mailto:eland@uno.edu)>

**Subject:** FW: Suggestion Form

Please send to Randall as Staff Council President:

Thank you for your comments. If staff members and students have insurance, they can get COVID tested at the health clinic in the University Center and their insurance will cover the test. If they do not have insurance, they can get a free COVID test at Walgreen's and CVS pharmacies anywhere in the region. More information on testing sites is available here: [Testing - NOLA Ready](#).

If a student or employee has symptoms, comes into close contact with an infected person or tests positive for COVID, they should report it through this website: [Guardian | University of New Orleans \(guardianconduct.com\)](#). At that point, close contacts are assessed and informed, if needed. This has been part of our messaging for the past 16 months and we will increase the frequency and visibility of that messaging as the fall semester draws closer.

We have been consistent with our messaging in recent months that the best way to protect yourself and others from the virus is to get vaccinated. Until further notice, everyone must also wear masks indoors on campus. That message focus regarding vaccines will continue.

Thank you for your suggestions and engagement on this issue.

### Addendum II: Zoom Chat

10:02:26 From Monique Nolan Legendre : Congratulations and thank you, Randall!

10:16:31 From Braylin Artigues : Let me know when the Staff Council Website is done and I'll link to the new employee page and mention it at orientation

10:16:43 From Julie Landry : That would be great, will do!

10:21:36 From LeeAnne S. (she/her/hers) : Yes!

10:21:50 From Kim Gallow - UNO Athletics : What are the dates again?

10:21:53 From LeeAnne S. (she/her/hers) : Staff can participate:  
<https://www.uno.edu/calendar>

10:22:15 From Kim Gallow - UNO Athletics to Coleen Maidlow(Privately) : What are the dates again? For the vaccination drive?

10:22:19 From LeeAnne S. (she/her/hers) : Ochsner Health Clinic – UNO, located on the second floor of University Center, will have the Pfizer vaccine available for UNO students, faculty, and staff on the following dates:Wednesday, August 11: 10am-2pmFriday, August 13: 12pm-4pmMonday, August 16: 9am-2pm

10:22:33 From Kim Gallow - UNO Athletics : Awesome, thank you!!

10:22:35 From Joy Ballard (she/her/hers) : Awesome! Thanks LeeAnne! :)

10:22:58 From LeeAnne S. (she/her/hers) : sure thing!

10:24:43 From Braylin Artigues : are Medicaid employees still allowed to attend?

The UNO Staff Council is dedicated to providing the best possible representation for the staff of the University. Our goal is to identify ways to support and enhance the lives of our valued fellow staff. Staff Council welcomes input from the entire university community in order to make the University of New Orleans the best place to work and prosper in the City of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana.