



**August 25, 2021**

## **Meeting Minutes**

---

**Senators Present:** Ashley Isom, Audreka Peten, Carlos Herrera, Christy Dade, Jason Cole, Kristin Jetts, Kyana Smith, Melanie Watson, Nadia Eslinger, Shad Foley, Tina Wells, Garth Clayborn, Hunter Roberts, Susan Peterson, Jennifer Day, Richard Hammond, Lynetta Morris, Natalie Shock, Jason Davis, Veneta Fricks, Angela Jackson, Kimberly Klotz, Julia Robison, Alison Taylor

**Senators Absent:** Courtney Bryant, Elizabeth Gayfield, Steven Shook, Taylor Ingram, Thomas McDaniel, Angela Polk, Jennifer Ruud

### **I. Call to Order**

- A. President Eslinger called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

### **II. Approval of August 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

- A. The minutes from the August 11, 2021 meeting were reviewed via email and approved electronically.

### **III. Guest Speakers**

- A. Dr. Stephanie McBrayer, Associate VP of Housing and Residence Life/BearCard
  - 1. New Digital BearCards (BearCard Mobile) launched at UCA this fall
    - a) [Bearcard FAQs](#)
    - b) You must first download [E-Accounts App](#) and [Microsoft Authenticator](#) apps in order to use
    - c) Iphone Users: Bearcard mobile can be added to your Apple Wallet for quick access
    - d) Contactless readers available near doorways in some buildings on campus
    - e) Contactless readers can still detect your mobile ID even when your phone battery is dead (for up to five hours)

- f) Faculty/Staff can opt in today; once your digital BearCard is set up your physical ID card will be deactivated
- g) UCA will transition over the next few years and will eventually stop using physical ID cards

## IV. Officer Reports

### A. President, Nadia Eslinger

1. Pandemic Planning Meeting -- 151 COVID tests, only 14 positives, 197 people vaccinated over the past two weeks
2. 13 currently people in quarantine
3. Over 1,100 faculty and staff have received the \$200 vaccine incentive
  - a) To apply for the vaccine incentive, you must complete this online [Vaccine Incentive Form](#)
4. Trial Date regarding Arkansas ACT 1002 to determine legality of mask mandate ban set for November 2021
5. Board of Trustees meeting on August 13 - Student Center renamed after former Vice President of Student Services and Institutional Diversity, Ronnie Williams
6. Congratulations to our Employee of the Year winners for 2020-2021:
  - a) Non-Classified Winner: Andy Rohlman
  - b) Non-Classified Finalists: Jennifer Ruud and Joan Shofner
  - c) Classified Winner: Holly Gibbons
  - d) Classified Finalists: Jennifer Day and Tena Maness
7. Feedback from Constituent Emails
  - a) Emergent Themes: Salary and Equity Pay, Remote Work, COVID and Masks, Stress Relief and Well-Being
  - b) Improvement of Existing Initiatives: Providing more Professional Development opportunities (more virtual options), Overhaul Employee Service Awards Ceremony to increase staff attendance, Alternative methods to earn holiday time, More motivational speakers, Consider alternate Spring Social menu
  - c) New Initiatives Suggested: Improve Faculty/Staff Relations, work more with faculty; better explanation of work expectations across campus; having more Staff Senate swag for staff to enjoy
  - d) Explain how Volunteering works and why UCA allows staff to earn holiday time for volunteering at Reynolds performances and athletic events

- e) Clarification about Commencement volunteers: Volunteers do receive holiday time for volunteering for Commencement, but it is no longer Staff Senate's responsibility to recruit volunteers

B. Vice-President, Carlos Herrera

1. Moved Kristin Jetts to Maree Herring's former position in Academic Affairs

C. Treasurer, Kristin Jetts

1. Working on promotional items
2. Emergency Fund - funded 2 applicants

D. Secretary, Garth Clayborn

1. No report

E. Parliamentarian/Historian, Melanie Straw-Watson

1. No report

F. Ex Officio, Steven Shook

1. Absent

## **v. Senate Committee Report/Highlights**

A. Courtesy Committee: Angela Polk Absent

1. Request for five cards to be sent to staff across campus this week

B. Professional Development Committee

1. Discussed plan for the year; will follow President's lead with spotlight color codes
2. University Values - Intellectual Excellence, Community, Diversity, and Integrity

- a) Discussion of how to better incorporate UCA's core values into everything we do, and how to better communicate these values to the UCA community

## **VI. University Committee Reports**

- A. Retirement Committee: Many employees are not investing. Recommendations to increase awareness of benefits and how retirement plans work. Maybe more forums so employees can learn more about their investment options.

## **VII. Campus Q&A**

A. Any issues with the mask mandate on campus?

1. Library: Some students not wearing a mask correctly
2. Please do not create your own mask signage; you can request that from the Pandemic Planning Committee
3. Residence Halls: Students not wearing masks correctly in common/shared spaces.
4. HPER Center: There is frequent confusion regarding when to mask because you're not supposed to wear masks when you're actually exercising, but you are supposed to wear a mask when moving from one space to another and in locker rooms. Reminder that it is everyone's job to encourage students to wear masks correctly, not just the HPER staff

## VIII. **Constituent Concerns**

A. Shad Foley, UCA PD

1. Concern about Cafeteria Procedures, a lot of Self-Service options back open such as salad bar, bigger tables, not as much social distancing happening
2. Concern about HPER closure due to staff training the week before the fall semester begins; campus couldn't access the HPER for 3 days
3. Student Health Center advertises walk-in services but sends away faculty/staff; faculty/staff must schedule an appointment although they accept student walk-ins

## IX. **Old Business**

A. None

## X. **New Business**

- A. BearsVax Campaign: Toolkit on website; continue to bring awareness to our campus community <https://uca.edu/coronavirus/bearsvax-toolkit/>

**B. Constitutions/By-Laws Update and Revision**

1. Please review **highlighted items** in yellow
2. Will vote at next meeting on 9/8

C. 8/11/21 Minutes Clarification from Shad Foley

1. Crime has nothing to do with not wearing a mask. Crime is criminal trespass if asked to leave and refusing to do so. Nothing to do with masks. Not a crime to refuse to wear a mask.

## **XI. Good and Welfare**

- A. Julia Robison - new baby grandgirl -- Avery Lynn
- B. Ashley Isom has accepted a new position on campus. New Program Coordinator for Concurrent Enrollment.

## **XII. Adjournment**

- A. Senator Watson motioned to adjourn. Senator Peterson seconded. Motion carried.