# University Council

**MINUTES**  
**JULY 13, 2021**  
**3 – 3:40 PM**  
**MICROSOFT TEAMS**

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<tr>
<th>MEETING CALLED BY</th>
<th>Tonia Ferrell, chair</th>
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<tr>
<td>TYPE OF MEETING</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRESIDER</td>
<td>Tonia Ferrell, chair</td>
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<td>NOTE TAKER</td>
<td>Heather Loughney</td>
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**ATTENDEES**

- **Member:** Anne Bruno, Jeanette Carson, Katie Cerrone, Will Cole, Laura Conley, Ed Evans, Kathee Evans, Tonia Ferrell, Amy Freels, Katelyn Frey, JP Garcher, Marjorie Hartleben, Kris Kraft, Paul Levy, Tim McCarragher, Gary Miller, John Nicholas, Michele Novachek, Scott Randby, Tiffany Schmidt, Shawn Stevens, John Wiencek

- **Absent with notice:** Grace Kasunic

- **Absent without notice:** Jennifer Manista, Emily Starkey


## Agenda topics:

### CALL TO ORDER  
**TONIA FERRELL**

1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

2. The chair asked for additions or revisions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

3. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the June 8 University Council minutes. One correction to the Chairs report – “Chairs are working on these things.” With the correction, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT  
**TONIA FERRELL**

The vice-chair reviewed the June 22 UC Executive Committee minutes.

1. Topic Submissions – there were no new submissions.

2. Unfinished business – Flex work policy went out to campus on June 17, has been received well. Questions about policy and it was suggested that more information on the HR website would be helpful and to have more FAQs. UC bylaws review continues-looking at outdated, restrictive and redundant portions of bylaws. UC orientation committee discussed retreat portion of October UC meeting. Decision to move up deadlines for goals to be presented at retreat.
Provost mentioned that timelines of governing bodies will be aligned over the next year and will look at items for Faculty Senate and University Council.

3. New business – welcome back to campus event – food truck was Barrio and was on campus on July 13. Chair Ferrell met with Kim Cole in Development and cost above minimum will be covered. Thank you to Anne Bruno for coordinating. The event was a great success. UC has been asked to appoint members to the reinstated IT Security Committee. There was discussion of possible members and Chair will reach out to CPAC and SEAC for names to appoint and bring those to UC for vote.

4. Approved the agenda for the July 13 UC meeting.

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

DR. GARY MILLER

- The President welcomed everyone back to campus.
- The President mentioned HB 244, having to do with military children and tech based education. The House inserted into the bill restrictions on state schools that they may not require vaccines for students that is not approved beyond emergency use. This is a work in progress. He asked Eric Green to come up with a plan with 90 days before the law would go into effect. Some vaccines may be given approval for use before October and then the law would prohibit requiring the vaccine.

PROVOST’S REMARKS

JOHN WIENCEK

- The Provost began with an update on enrollment; there have been highs and lows through the summer, bracing for a decline in the freshman class. Registrations are down about 1% but are forecasted to be double digits soon. Confirmations are down about 13%. Working to get students registered who have not done so yet. He stated that he hopes that the decline will be less.
- The parallel focus is to recruitment of the next class of students, to get them to enroll and complete their applications. Special recruiting events are coming and need campus involvement. Focus is on key feeder high schools and getting them into our program. Bringing them to campus is key, we tend to seal the deal if they visit.
- Work with Faculty Senate continues on collective bargaining agreement items. Recently met to discuss financial issues and investment decisions. The Provost said he was pleased with the collegiality being shown, work will continue into next year.
- Strategic plans have been submitted and will be accepted but they will section them into the most important parts of the plan, mainly enrollments.
- A question was asked the seeming bottleneck in transfer services, they are short-handed and it is causing delays in transfer of credits for students. This delays them being able to register for courses. The Provost said he would pass that on
right away and encouraged anyone to email him, Cher Hendricks or Joe Urgo with issues or ideas.

- A question was asked about the 1% decline in enrollment and whether that was based on last year at this time? The Provost indicated that it was based on same time last year. He has spoken with Kim Gentile and thinks it will be 10% by tomorrow’s numbers. Not every year is identical but it gives an idea of trends. Returning students are not part of that number. Wayne Hill added that the projection is that the freshman class will be down 4-5% overall. John Messina added that the big issue is getting students who are registered fully enrolled.

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<th>COMMITTEE REPORTS</th>
<th>TONIA FERRELL</th>
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<td>- The were no committee reports.</td>
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<td>- John Messina spoke about the Food Truck event on campus that day and said that it was good to see coworkers back on campus and that these types of events are good for the university community. He expressed hope that there will be more of them. The Provost mentioned that the University Planning Group has identified this as an important part of our community and have been working on ways to have a shared sense of meaning for the campus moving forward. He said that social events could certainly be overlaid into that. Chair Ferrell pointed out that many on the UPG are members of UCEC and that they would talk about this at their meeting.</td>
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<td>- GSG – Katelyn Frey reported that since the last meeting GSG has revised its’ governing documents and updated their webpage. Working with Zip Assist on providing insurance for grad students. She reported that she has spoken with other GSGs in the region to get information on insurance and has had discussions with Dallas Grundy to get a cost breakdown on that for students. Still working on gathering information and developing an ad hoc insurance committee in GSG to work on the issue. She shared that she is still looking for a grad student to represent the College of Engineering and Polymer Science.</td>
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<td>- USG – James Garder reported that USG is getting ready for New Roo Weekend and preparing items for students and getting everyone ready to engage our new students.</td>
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<td>- CPAC – completed their elections and notifying everyone of new class.</td>
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<td>- Faculty Senate – Ed Evans reported that FSEC is working on implementation of MOU.</td>
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<td>- Deans – Dean McCarragher welcomed Dean McKinney to campus. He will be the Dean of BCAS. Deans are working on confirmations and working with new student orientations. Undergraduate programs working to include transfer and grad students in recruitment.</td>
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- Chairs – Chair Levy reported that recruitment and retention continue to be the focus. Sharing numbers with chairs and encouraging them to reach out to student who have not registered yet.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**TONIA FERRELL**

- None

### NEW BUSINESS

**TONIA FERRELL**

- None

### GOOD OF THE ORDER

**TONIA FERRELL**

- John Nicholas shared that he would be on WAKR radio to speak about ransomware issues.

- Secretary Kraft wished to thank John MacDonald for his work with the Recreation and Wellness committee for many years. He is leaving for a new position and wished to thank him for all he has done for the group.

- Shout out to Anne Bruno for her work in putting together the Food Truck event today. Everyone was excited to be there and even student in line expressed excitement at seeing everyone back on campus.

- Motion to adjourn at 3:40 pm.