

Union Council
Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2016

Present: Deshawn McKinney, Mark Guthier, Madison Laning, George Cutlip, Omar Jandal, Lori Berquam, Jessica Franco-Morales, Susan Dibbell, Chris Verhaeghe, Caleb Foust, Lily Hansen, Peter Lipton, Adan Abu-Hakmeh, Carmen Gosey, Samuel Park

Guests: Victoria Fok, William Rosenthal, Danny Supernaw, Iffa Bhuiyan, Yusi Liu, Federica Ranelli, Lori DeMeuse

Call to Order: Deshawn McKinney called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Approval of 9/26/16 Meeting Minutes

Madison Laning **made a motion to approve** the minutes. **Samuel Park seconded.** All approved. **Motion passed.**

Open Forum

No one was present to speak at the open forum.

WUD Goals

WUD Directors reported on their goals for this year:

Alternative Breaks – Director Iffa Bhuiyan

- More student involvement
- Two student trip leaders per each trip
- Doing some special events in addition to trips

Cuisine Committee – Director Federica Ranelli

- This is a new committee – the main goal is to get the committee up and running and differentiate it from other campus food organizations
- Wants to be a platform and advocate for innovations and discovery in the food system
- Looking for ways to engage people with an interest in agriculture and the food supply and also those interested in how food can build community for some and be polarizing for others

Hoofers Ski and Snowboard – President Danny Supernaw

- The main goal is to get those who have not had an opportunity to ski to a local ski hill
- Trying to make trips more affordable by doing more fundraising and sponsorship
- Offering a free introductory lesson
- Hope to have a better resale event

Distinguished Lectures Series – Director William Rosenthal

- One of the committee's main goals is to make sure there is a wide variety of speakers in both backgrounds and topics.
- Increase the amount and spread of events on research that is being done on campus.
- Increase the amount of committee informational carryover from one year to the next

Society and Politics – Director Omar Jandal

- Focusing on election related events
- Embracing student voices – hosting many different events reflecting many different viewpoints

- More sessions with graduate students on research being done on campus
- Exploring technology and how we can do things better

Art – Director Yusi Liu

- Modernization of gallery
- More impact for committee name on campus
- Committee members learn art installation

Hoofer Council – President Caleb Foust

- Bring all Hoofer club’s technology up to the level of the Sailing Club
- Thinking about expanding chapters to other UW schools

Wisconsin Union Directorate Goals (Policy P&L 2-1) – Adan Abu-Hakmeh and Lily Hansen

See attached policy.

Lily Hansen made a **motion to approve** the WUD goals. Peter Lipton **seconded the motion**. All approved.

Motion passed.

EID Council Goals – Susan Dibbell

Ms. Dibbell reported that the Union has created an Engagement, Inclusion and Diversity Council for permanent staff. EID is a priority of the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration. The committee is comprised of 8 full-time staff members representing all of the functional areas of the Union. The EID Council has established a mission, vision and goals statement which was reviewed by Ms. Dibbell. George Cutlip suggested adding a brief paragraph defining EID. Funds will be allocated in the Union budget for EID initiatives.

Memorial Union Reopening – Mark Guthier

Mr. Guthier reported that the first floor of Memorial Union will not open on November 1 as originally anticipated. At this time it is hoped that we will reach substantial completion by November 3. Next week a determination will be made on whether to open after Thanksgiving or wait until the beginning of the semester in January. A discussion took place on whether to open the non-restaurant units prior to exams if that is a possibility. Most felt opening as soon as possible was preferable. Samuel Park expressed frustration on behalf of student employees regarding the lack of information on the opening date.

Sub-Committee Reports

Deshawn McKinney reminded Council members that they need to serve on a Council sub-committee.

External Relations - Omar Jandal

- Determined the agenda items for the year
- Will look at why table tents are no longer used
- Will look at the procedure regarding banners. Want to make banners more accessible for Union entities and organizations.
- All policies and procedures will be reviewed

Administration – Deshawn McKinney

- The primary focus of the committee is the budget. Working on teaching committee members to read and understand the budget and budget issues.

Facilities – Adan Abu-Hakmeh

- The Reflection Room opened at Union South today. Emails were sent out to the different campus entities involved in proposing the room. Terms of use are posted on a sheet outside of the space.
- FP&M contacted the committee about building a bike shelter by the planter outside of Union South. The project will be funded by FP&M.

Mark Guthier inquired whether the Facilities Committee will bring the approval of the planned bike shelter to Union Council. Ms. Abu-Hakmeh responded that she believed it was already in the works, but will follow up with Asst. Director for Facilities Paul Broadhead. Mr. Guthier expressed concern that there was a more elaborate design for a bike shelter in the initial building plans that was dropped due to budgetary issues. He feels that Union Council should see the plans and be able to give feedback before the shelter is built. Members asked Ms. Abu-Hakmeh to bring more information on this to the next meeting.

Dining – Caleb Foust

- Some committee members want to discuss pricing. They feel like they are being priced out of purchasing food at the Union. Prices were recently reduced.
- Working on Dining Service touchstones by coming up with specific verbiage and codifying them in policy form.
- Working on mission statement and purpose of Dining Services
- Thinking about ways to bring pricing inline between Memorial Union and Union South.

Iffa Bhuiyan asked if the committee was working on offering more vegetarian food items. Caleb responded that they are, especially in the new Memorial Union food units.

Omar Jandal asked if it is possible to have classes work with Dining Services data. Mark Guthier noted that we partner with School of Human Ecology Customer Analytics classes.

Madison Laning brought up the issue that pork gelatin is an ingredient in most Babcock Dairy ice creams. The Dining Services Sub-Committee will add this topic to their agenda.

Samuel Park inquired about the process for handling food waste. Mr. Guthier explained that food that is prepared for catering orders but has not left the kitchen for serving is donated to shelters. Any restaurant food leftovers cannot be donated and are sent to compost. This year we are hoping to have zero food waste go to the landfill.

Program and Leadership – Lily Hansen

Ms. Hansen reported that the Program and Leadership Committee is working on policy changes.

- **P&L 3.2 – Changing of titles**
Lily Hansen **made a motion** to amend the policy as distributed and in addition change Asst. Dir for Social Education to Asst. Dir. for Program and Leadership Development. Mark Guthier **seconded the motion**. All approved. **Motion passed**.
- **P&L 6.2 – Old ticketing policy for WUD film that is out of date**
Adan Abu-Hakmeh **made a motion** to delete P&L 6.2. Lily Hansen **seconded** the motion. All approved. **Motion passed**.
- **WU1.1 – Changing position descriptions in the by-laws**
The by-law change will need to be voted on at next meeting due to time required for posting.

- **Officer position descriptions**
Will come to the November meeting

Madison Laning brought up that there is no University Staff representative on Union Council. She also feels there should be a student employee representative. Jessica Franco-Morales agreed regarding have a University Staff representative sit on Union Council. Mark Guthier responded there are good reasons to do this, but it would require a change to the constitution, which will take a campus-wide vote. The Administration Sub-Committee will add this topic to their agenda.

Updates

ASM – Carmen Gosey

- Early voting going on in Union South
- Student Council passed Indigenous People’s Day legislation

Dean of Students – Lori Berquam

Ms. Berquam provided an update on the Black Cultural Center. Staff visited a variety of centers on other campuses. A white paper was presented to the Chancellor. Room 106 in the Red Gym is a potential site for the center.

Deputy Director – Susan Dibbell

Ms. Dibbell reported that the Union’s financials are favorable as of 8/31. Retail dining units revenues exceeded budget. Expenses were under budget in Operating and Facilities Support Services due to staff vacancies.

The Union has been asked to issue voter ID’s at 7 campus locations on Election Day.

Director – Mark Guthier

Mr. Guthier explained that food is served at Union Council for two reasons: to eat together and build community and to test recipes for the catering staff. Funding comes from the Director’s Annual fund.

Budget discussions will begin at the November and December Union Council meetings.

Adjourn

Lily Hansen **made a motion** to adjourn. Adan Abu-Hakmeh **seconded the motion**. **Motion passed**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.