**Union Council Meeting**
Minutes
September 30, 2020

**Present:**

Lily Miller

Kari Fischer

Pradyumna Rao

Susan Dibbell

Mark Guthier

Heidi Lang

Paul Peppard

Ansley Laev

Jenny Faust

Christina Olstad

Grace D’Souza

Aerin Leigh Lammers

Barb Rasmussen

**Visitor:**

Ed Janairo

Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m.

Lily Miller read the land acknowledgement.

Introductions.

Motion: Mark first, Jenny second. April Meeting Minutes Approved.

**Union Council Orientation**

* Role of the College Union- Heidi Lang
	+ The role is to advance a sense of community, by serving students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests. We also offer programs and activities that serve the college mission. The union is the “college Livingroom” of the campus, and helps to enhance the student experience. It’s intended to be a united force for campus. The goal is to help students develop and be well rounded.
* History- Mark Guthier
	+ Mark gave an overview of the history of the Wisconsin Union. The Wisconsin Union has been around since 1907, founded as a student organization. It was created so that every student could belong here, the first of it’s kind. We are responsible for the cultural/social and recreational well-being of the student body. In 1930, the Theater wing was added to Memorial Union. 1939 is when the student governance and ASM were created. In 2011 the Union South opened and 2018 the new Memorial Union.
* Bylaws and Constitution- Mark Guthier
	+ This is where we get our direction for Union Council. They are the UW box for everyone to be able to review.
	+ The constitution was written by a faculty and student committee in anticipation for Memorial Union opening. It describes the make-up of Union Council and how it should be run.
	+ The Bylaws are where you go for definitions of words that are used in Union Council. The voting members, Quorum, are established here. The meeting cannot happen without them. The Bylaws also describe the rules of operation, meeting details, and the terms of office of council members.
* Parliamentary Procedure – Mark Guthier
	+ We will send out so everyone has them available. These will help everyone know how the meetings are run when decisions need to be made during the meeting.
* Shared Governance/Advisory Boards- Susan Dibbell
	+ Susan described, 3609 State Statue- it spells out the different voices that are involved in decision making for campus. Union Council really reflects this. This is also in box folder.
* Policy Index- Susan Dibbell
	+ We have 19 pages that summarize our policies. We have these to make sure we are transparent in our decision making. We also have procedures that correlate with the policies and answer how things are implemented. These are kept in box as well for reference.
* Finances- Susan Dibbell
	+ There are 70 different budgets that make up the entire Union budget as a whole. Susan went through the June budget statement. The June shows you where we ended our last fiscal year, especially with the effects of COVID. The deficit was much greater than we expected. Susan went through how to read the budget statements, that Union Council will go through monthly.

**Union Advisory Boards**

* Advisory Board Topics
	+ Admin- Lily
		- Lily shared the form that was sent to everyone, that will appoint you to the boards you would like to serve on.
		- They will meet on Tuesdays, discussing hiring process, budgets, and technology in the Union.
	+ Program & Leadership- Kari
		- They are meeting on Wednesdays. They are currently looking at assessing associate director compensation.
	+ Facilities- Prady
		- They are going to be talking about sanitation, gender neutral restrooms, space designation, and security assessment.
	+ Dining & Hospitality- Ansley
		- They will be meeting on Thursdays. Focusing on sustainability renovating dining options, increasing diversity food options, and talking about hotel spaces for COVID.

**Officer Reports**

* President- Lily
	+ Directorate this year has been very active so far. They were developing programs early as they knew this year would look different. Working on racial justice issues, mental health and programs that can help with all of these. Social media has been big in helping to get the message out.
	+ Lily meets with the cabinet leaders as well from the VCSA regularly.
* VP of Internal Relations- Kari
	+ The summer was spent mostly on redoing the budgets, which was a big project for everyone, who did it so well. The Fall retreat for associate directors was done online this year, but still was able to be exposed to a lot of ideas on how to program virtually.
	+ Kari is working closely with WUA on their fall meeting, and making sure more students are able to attend and be active at.
	+ Kari is also working on creating professional development on conflict resolution.
* VP of External Relations- Prady
	+ Part of Prady’s role has to do with marketing WUD to create a plan and build relationships with outside organizations. They have shifted from using the building as a marketing tool, to using virtual platforms to reach more students. They have also shifted their marketing slogans, to more action related ones. This will help bring attention to the BIPOC issues.
	+ Rise Up Week is the next project he is working on. As well as helping with professional development.
	+ Prady is also a student advisor on WUA’s DEI residency as well, which should be meeting shortly.

**Action Items & Updates**

* Hoofer Council President Update- Ansley
	+ Ansley started by discussing what Hoofer’s is. Hoofer is the name of the organization, that makes up 6 different clubs, as well as Hoofer Ambassadors. Hoofers has their own council, and Ansley runs that.
	+ They have been meeting and discussing their social justice goals for the year.
	+ They started the year by attending the WUD retreat, followed by their council retreat, which was fully virtual.
	+ They are a revenue area, unlike the rest of Directorate, so they have been working hard on budget reorganization and pivoting their plans for programming.
* Presentation of the WUD Goals- Lily
	+ Lily shared the WUD goal that was drafted at their fall retreat on what they want to do this year. It is in the box folder.
	+ Union Council had a discussion about the WUD Goal, which needs to be approved.
	+ Motion for the WUD goal: Susan first, Kari second. Motion passed.
* Operating Hours of the Union- Susan
	+ Susan went through the new building hours.
	+ The new building hours are 9am-7pm.
	+ Susan asked Union Council if it was ok, due to COVID and things changing so rapidly, that Union Council Exec make these decisions?
	+ Motion to have flexibility in business hours in response to COVID.
* Budget Update- Mark
	+ This is a precursor for the action item that will take place in the October meeting.
	+ The Union is being asked to do projections for the budget. By October, they will have a projection for Union Council to review.
	+ Right now it is looking like a 15 million dollar deficit. We will be discussing what we are going to do to help manage this.
	+ Union Council will be asked to approve the readjusted budget.
* Jones Leadership Center & Social Justice Hub Update- Heidi
	+ Two programs that were in the social education area but have now moved outside that.
	+ Jones Leadership Center- it was a leadership program staffed by interns that did programs for students on leadership. Since we are now under the Student Affairs area, it was determined that this would now move to under center for leadership and involvement.
	+ Social Justice Hub- program within social education, to bring students together that are interested in social issues. Inclusion and Education area was created to have more capacity for this over the summer. It’s currently going to stay in Union South.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.