



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL

SAC General Meeting Agenda

October 10, 2023 – 9:00 AM in CEC 201/205

This meeting will be held under [Chatham House Rule](#). Topics and decisions will be fully and accurately represented but not individual speakers.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Announcements
4. Speaker: Paola Briones, Senior Enrollment Specialist, Office of Graduate Studies
 - a. More than 90 graduate programs including master's degrees, PhDs, specialist, certificates, and non-degrees.
 - i. Certificates are approximately ½ of a master's degree.
 - b. Applications are \$25-\$50 depending on degree.
 - i. Can have office pay application fee for a code to waive fee.
 - ii. May require letters of recommendation, resume, statement of purpose, and writing samples.
 - c. Online programs
 - i. Full list



- ii.
- d. Programs for higher education
 - i. More info



- ii.
- e. Are GRE scores still required?



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- i. Depending on program, many programs waive GRE score requirements.
 - f. Tuition benefit can pay for these courses – 12 hours per semester.
 - g. Staff would be part-time students – most can finish program within 2 – 3 years.
- 5. Speaker: Ana Lopez Shalla, Director of Strategic Partnerships and New Market
 - a. Microcredentials
 - i. Looking to meet regional demands in terms of what microcredentials are being sought.
 - ii. Microcredentials signal a learner's mastery of a specific skill set.
 - iii. Target audience is mid-career professionals.
 - b. Digital badging
 - i. Exist in addition to microcredentials.
 - ii. Can be used on platforms such as LinkedIn.
 - c. Why use microcredentials and badging?
 - i. Social mobility increases access and equity, serving industry and learner needs, and reskilling and upskilling.
 - d. Why partner with ILCI for microcredentials?
 - i. Support people as they identify a topic, use marker research, and create a course outline and development process.
 - e. Do not have to be a UNO staff or faculty to author/teach a course.
 - f. Benefits to creating a course include being named as an author, receiving ongoing payments for course, etc.
 - g. Badge is issued to person receiving the badge, validating the skillset of the learner.
 - h. Market research is done on topics being brought to the ILCI team.
 - i. Faculty/staff receive 50% discount on courses – one per year.
 - i. The average cost of one of the core courses is a few hundred dollars.
- 6. Speaker: Derrick Sheppard, Associate Athletic Director
 - a. Sports tickets – faculty staff have a 15% discount.
 - i. Using promo code "STAFF" online provides the discount.
 - b. Hockey
 - i. Season tickets start as low as \$199.
 - ii. The discount does not apply to club seating.
 - iii. Half plans available, starting at \$130 up to \$275.
 - iv. 6 game flex plan starting at \$96.
 - c. Single game staff information



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i.

7. Upcoming speakers

- a. November 14: HR/Retirement
- b. December 12: Parking

8. Committee Updates

- a. Strategic Planning and Culture (Sarah Heimerman)
 - i. Meeting tomorrow to finalize review of staff survey, will be distributed to exec and committee next month.
- b. Events (Mindy Hunke)
 - i. Congrats Mindy on the successful picnic!
- c. Community Engagement (Heather Williamson)
 - i. Have met with a few people on the committee. Created a variety of ideas to follow through on. Hoping to have an event relating to Halloween at the end of this month and something larger next month.
 - ii. Vote for favorite Maverick drawings
 - iii. Budget was \$10k, slightly under at the moment.
 - iv. Chancellor Li's office may pay overage.
 - v. Discussion – what went well, what could be better, what could we do without, what could be added, and what would you like to see spring 2024?
 1. Alumni table at the entrance was confusing.
- d. Professional Development (Jacob Stodola)
 - i. Went through September's applications, awarded \$5,842, approved \$18,000.
 - ii. Revising PD Fund guidelines
 1. Make things more consistent instead of subjective.
 2. Hoping to provide a greater impact to university.
 3. Are they presenting, developing a program of study, student recruiting, etc.
 4. Looking at records of who has received funds in the past.
- e. DEAI (Yajaira Gonzalez)



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- i. [Focusing on efforts for increasing attendance at DEAI symposium attendance.](#)
 - ii. October 13, 2023, 12 PM-1 PM, Community Engagement Center RM 231
Dr. Lyn Holly, Sources and impacts of internal and external Ageism.
Dr. Jeannette Gabriel, Director, Schwalb Center for Israel and Jewish Studies, How Racially Restrictive Housing Covenants Shaped Omaha &
 - iii. Toni Monette, Volunteer and Civic Engagement Coordinator,
Volunteerism and Civic Engagement: How DEIA + History Informs the "Service" of Today
9. President's Update:
 - a. Open discussion on budget
 - i. Budget and Finance email - budget-challenges@unomaha.edu
 - ii. Budget town hall, October 20, 10:30-Noon, TAC
 - iii. Catering is prohibitively expensive; the same food is 3x the cost.
 1. Tell them what your budget is, if Sodexo does not work with your budget, send an email to SAC.
 2. Unlikely folks will be able to go off-campus to purchase food.
 3. Reach out to Denise Kjeldgaard for additional help.
 - iv. Each university must have budgets to president by 12/1. Every expenditure must be justified.
 - v. Recommendation that cuts should be made in a way that will not be more expensive to reverse down the road.
 - vi. Bethany working with the Chancellor's office to make sure staff is represented in budget discussions.
 - vii. Look for faculty advocates to work with staff – the work done by staff must be done, if cuts are made, work will be done by faculty which would overburden faculty.
10. President search
 - a. Really quick turnaround on nominations for people to serve on search committee and selection.