Staff Assembly General Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2021 via Zoom

Board Members:
- **President**: Yesenia Curiel
- **Past President**: Priya Lakireddy
- **Vice President**: Alvin Cha
- **Finance Officer**: Lorena Magana-Aguilar & Vanessa Hauser
- **Secretary**: Ian Cooke
- **Co-Chair of Programs and Events**: Molly Elazier
- **Co-Chair of Programs and Events**: Ashley Summerset
- **Co-Chair of Communications**: Brenda Rojas
- **Co-Chair of Communications**: Austyn Smith

I. **Welcome** – President Yesenia Curiel called the meeting to order at 9:03

II. **Kurt Schnier**-Guest Speaker

- Budget Call Updates
  i. Design and process for Budget call FY22:
     1. Transparency
     2. Predictable
     3. Integrated
     4. Adaptable
     5. Accountable
     6. Fiscally responsible
  ii. Budget call must integrate:
     1. Strategic planning
     2. Divisional planning/academic planning
     3. Budget projections
     4. Realized revenue sources
     5. Drive base budget process
     6. Carryforward policy
  iii. Planning should come first in the process:
     1. Strategic planning
        a. Provides foundation for 10 campus goals
  iv. Timeline
     1. Fall-preparation work
     2. Spring-alignment of requests with budgetary resources
3. Finalized before Fall semester begins
v. Six signification procedural changes due to monetary problems
   1. Change to dollar process versus an FTE process
   2. Non salary expenses will be reduced
   3. School and divisions will be free to allocate budgetary resources to best
      service their needs.
   4. Vacancies that accrue during FY22 FTE will remain, but all budget expenses
      will be held for 6 months
   5. Position control group will meet as needed
vi. Chancellors will send out communication

• Questions:
  i. Giving divisions and schools a pot of money, how is equity being thought about in
     this process?
     1. It is being built into the budget call process
  ii. How quickly is 50% retirement being rolled out?
     1. Temporary retired-holding funds indefinitely. There will be FTE allocated
        but no dollars being put into it. It will be implements FY22. Once the funds
        are available, staff will have resources to hire.
  iii. New updates we should be expecting to come out for staff?
     1. All fiscal measure and new budget process is being laid out on the table,
        backfills, FTE’s etc. There will be a campus announcement addressing
        these areas. A lot of pressure has been put on staff in the last year and
        they want to support staff as best as possible.

• Budget relies on two elements:
  i. State preparations
  ii. Enrollment

Staff Assembly Executive Board Updates:

III. President—Yesenia Curiel informed staff of the following:
• Campus Council Sears
  i. 4 individuals came for interviews
  ii. Waiting to hear from the Chancellor
  iii. Campus announcement will go out in the next few weeks
• Strategic Planning
  i. May 14th was the deadline to contribute
  ii. Information will be reviewed shortly
• Peoples first
  i. Last meeting is next week, but they are working on a return to work guideline that
     will be provided to administration for recommendations
• UC 2021 staff engagement survey
  i. Came out May 10th
  ii. 592 people received the email to participate
  iii. 25% response rate from UC Merced
  iv. Please respond if you received the email, the deadline is June 4th.
IV. Vice President-Alvin Cha informed staff of the following:
- Deadline for Self Nominations for Staff Assembly executive board elections will be Friday. However, we will keep it open through the weekend.
- Staff Excellence award nomination is up and live. Think about who you want to nominate and send it in.

V. Secretary-Ian Cooke informed staff of the following:
- Merced Pride
  i. Progress pride flag will be raised on June 1st, please come out and support the community.

VI. Programs and Events Co-Chairs – Molly Elazier and Ashley Summerset informed the staff of the following:
- Chef Mitch, scheduled to do a cooking class at noon had to cancel. The cooking class will be rescheduled for another time.
- We hope everyone has been able to take some time for yourself to appreciate the work the staff has been doing.
- Please don’t forget to end the photos for a prize
- Jeopardy for Fun Friday to finish the celebration.
- Idea for a drive-in movie on June 18th on campus, we would like to open it up for comments or suggestions. Currently scheduled to start at 9pm, but we would like to gauge the interest.
- We can also wait until the fall when it gets darker earlier.
- Consensus is Fall

VII. Finance Officer – Lorena Magana-Aguilar & Vanessa Hauser informed staff of the following

VIII. Communications Co-Chairs-Brenda Rojas and Austyn Smith informed the staff of the following:
- We are sending out newsletters everyday this week for staff appreciation.
- Newsletter the first week of June, if you want something to go out please send the staff assembly by June 1st.

IX. Past President-Priya Lakireddy informed the staff of the following:
- Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage month, thank you all and I appreciate all of you.
- Please take the engagement survey, if you don’t we can’t show the trends from the last 3 or 4 cycles.
- Nominate folks for staff excellence award. It is powerful to see colleagues nominate others.
- Police Advisory board is working on Bylaws. They will be shared when finalized.

X. Covid Updates:
- Hired 3 new staff members to run the Covid Response Center
Center has slowed down, cases are down significantly
Asymptomatic testing has changed their hours to Mondays 8:30-5 and Wednesdays 11-5
Vaccinated individuals are still required to test.
If you are on campus, you have to keep testing
If you are not vaccinated you will be required to test more. The details will come out shortly.
Protocol is still the same, masks, testing etc.
Don’t worry about making an appointment, just come out to get tested
UC Merced has the vaccine, please call student health and get an appointment
Questions:
  i. What about people that had Covid and are not required to get the vaccines:
     1. After 90 days we will require people to come in and test
  ii. Do you know when or if the check in station on campus is going away?
     1. For now, it will continue for the next couple of weeks until the new policy is released.
  iii. How will HIPPA laws impact sharing information about who is and who is not vaccinated?
     1. The employee will be filling out the form, no hippa laws violated.
  iv. How frequently will testing be required, what about employees at DCC?
     1. Every other week is the requirement.
     2. If people are vaccinated, once every three months.

Announcements:

Next General Meeting: June 17, 2021 at 9am
Meeting Adjourned at 9:56 am