

Meeting Minutes of: Council of Orgs

Date: Feb 3rd 2017

Location: N1099, UHD One Main Building

Meeting called to order at 2:07 pm by Daral Moore Washington, Chair of UHD Council of Orgs

Roll Call: Not performed

- Daral began the meeting by welcoming the first special speaker, Wendy Cooper from the Career Development Center and Lisa Marie Gonzales-Hatfield, also from the center. She asked the group what they thought networking was and received a couple of responses, noting that the most important part of networking was building connections, as over 80% of jobs are acquired through networking. She presented a new program coming in March called Mix With Houston, where professional organizations in Houston would be invited to meet with students, and asked the student orgs to invite their respective groups to attend. She has sent emails to students and organizations. Students may also volunteer beforehand and receive hours for community service. Since no students have signed up, she asked them to help promote it, registering is not mandatory and there will be food, drink and music. She also noted that each professional association will have a table, and that she would like to group student organizations to professional orgs to table together. She asked them to please direct any questions to Wendy Cooper (J.D. Career Development Center, Career Coach 713.221.8980 (cooperw@uhd.edu) (uhdcareer@uhd.edu)
 - A member asked what kinds of industries would be represented, Ms. Hatfield answered that they looked at student organizations to decide who to invite, so there will be all kinds of organizations from every field. She also asked them that if they knew of any interested organizations, to let her know.
 - Another member asked about a “working list” of the organizations already ready to present. Ms. Hatfield said it will not be open just yet, but will be released with more information a week before hand through “Jobs 4 Gators”.

She asked for comments and some members let her know that they thought it was a good idea; she told them that the event was put for their benefit, and with concern to student needs.

- Daral introduced Dr. Poonam Gulati from the Center for Community Engagement. Dr. Gulati asked the members about their involvement in the community and some offered examples. Dr. Gulati explained to members that the center is committed to helping the university make a large impact through volunteering. The curricular service classes are good opportunities to do service with a course and also show on a transcript when completed as special ACE courses. The center also offers funding for projects with proposals which are evaluated decided upon. The center usually offers 2 student grants with the general benefits being 2,000 for up to 3 leaders with a \$350 stipend included and a requirement of a faculty member as part of the proposal. Money can be used for

anything involved with a service project. The center can also help search for a mentor or help with deciding on service ideas.

- The Buffalo Bayou Project will be held in April 21st, close to Earth Day and will require volunteers. This year, it will involve every college working on activities for high school students involving the Bayou.

The center can also help with finding a work study opportunity outside of campus. The Community Partners Fair will be held from 10:45 to 12:15 in room A300. She also talked about the Newman Civic Fellowship, and asked the members to consider applying for the prestigious award. Trips throughout the country to leadership conferences are included for an entire year. She can help find faculty members to nominate them if someone is interested. Any runner ups will also be recognized on campus. She asked them to contact her with any questions (Dr. Poonam Gulati Salhotra Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, Interim Director Microbiology and Biology, Associate Professor 713.221.8066 (gulatip@uhd.edu))

- Daral invited the final speaker, President of the Student Government Association, Mustapha Nyallay to present the State of UHD Address. Mr. Nyallay gave a summary of the events that have happened at UHD in the last year, including the hiring of a new Police Chive and President, and the search for a new Vice President of Student Affairs. He let the members know that Student Government is participating in shared governance committees, representing students in areas like food options, and transportation. He also spoke of the GatorPool initiative, which is an application that is meant to reduce pollution and difficulty of finding parking on campus. They are looking to acquire incentives like reserved parking for people who carpool, or reimbursement opportunities if student are forced to take public transport back to their homes. As other universities have done it, he is optimistic. Further, SGA is working on building partnerships with organizations to participate in events and activates and will be hosting some events. January 26 was the "Meet the Reps" event, and Feb 23rd will be the first general assembly of the semester. A Town hall meeting will also be held, in addition to working with the Center for Community Engagement for the Ed's Bayou Cleanup and the Career Development Center for their Mixer. He told the group to look forward to a diversity event, and student government elections, where they will be able to vote for their representatives and president. He stressed that student involvement was invaluable, and that he hoped students will continue to be active.
- Daral presented some important dates for the members, including:
 - Next Council of Orgs Meeting on March 3rd from 2:00-4:00 pm
 - Mix with Houston: Professional Association Mixer March 9TH (Thursday) 6:00-7:30pm in the Welcome Center
 - Bayou Bash March 22nd (Wednesday) and One Main Event April 14TH (Friday) are both tentative dates.
- She went over updates for the Council of Finance and let the members know that new forms would be become live that day on Gatorsync.

- She asked anyone who was interested in a leadership position within the Council of Organizations, to remain after the meeting so that they can begin working as soon as possible. She reminded everyone that the position of Council of Orgs Chief will be available, and that it is a flexible and fun position. In addition, if any members had recommendations regarding the meeting procedures, to please share them with her. She let the members know that SGA and Council of Orgs continue to collaborate on the “Build Value” initiative and that she will be working on workshops for members to improve their organizations. Some ideas for them include marketing trainings, and how to build your resume with club involvement.
 - Irene Nunez asked if Daral had tentative dates for the workshops. Daral promised to let the members know as soon as she reserved a room and a presenter. She will make sure to sent information.

Because of concerns of the restrictiveness of certain Council of Finance regulations, Daral will be accepting proposals for amendments which will be voted upon the following meeting. She asked for only a single email per organization.

- Irene Nunez came to the floor to clarify that the first General Assembly of the semester would actually be February 16th at 1:00 pm although one would be held on the 23rd. at 1:00 pm. Both would be held in A300.

Daral reminded everyone that the next meeting would be March 3rd, and that she would let anyone know of any changes to the location.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:18 by Daral Moore Washington, to be followed by some raffled prizes in celebration of Super Bowl weekend.

Contact Information:

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