

Faculty Senate Minutes, Wednesday, Sept 19, 2018

JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Attending Senators: Augustine Agwuele, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Janet Bezner, Natalie Ceballos, Michel Conroy, Rachel Davenport, Jesse Gainer, Lynn Ledbetter, Ben Martin, David Nolan, Michael Supancic, Diego Vacaflores, Alex White

Guests: Selene Hinojosa (Library), Ameerah McBride (Chief Diversity Officer), Malarie Ohrabka (University Star), Araceli Ortiz (Senate Fellow), Ken Pierce (VP for Information Technology), Karen Sigler (Library), Carlos Solis (Associate VP for Instructional Technologies Support)

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Senate Chair Alex White

Photo day was postponed until Sept 26.

Ameerah McBride, Chief Diversity Officer

- Ms. McBride spoke to the senate about her new role as Chief Diversity Officer and chair of the Council on Inclusive Excellence. In the past, the Office of Equity and Access focused primarily on compliance. With the recent reorganization of this office, further resources will be directed to diversity and inclusion initiatives.
- As Chief Diversity Officer, Ms. McBride reports to Dr. Lisa Lloyd (Special Assistant to the President) and has regular monthly meetings with President Trauth. She is also working closely with Dr. Scott Bowman (Special Assistant to the Provost for Inclusion and Diversity) on the new toolkit for faculty recruitment and hiring.
- The new Council on Inclusive Excellence will replace the previous Equity and Access Committee. The Council will serve as an advisory group, which will make recommendations to the President's Cabinet. The agenda for the Council's first meeting includes plans to 1) define diversity and inclusion on our campus, 2) examine the campus climate survey results, and 3) merge the Diversity and Inclusion Plan with the University Plan.

Ken Pierce, Vice President for Information Technology

- Mr. Pierce and Dr. Carlos Solis (Associate VP for Instructional Technologies Support) described how the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) has restructured its units and departments to better serve the university community. The goals of the reorganization were to eliminate duplicate infrastructures, to standardize technologies, to provide more centralized support services, and to create an innovative, bimodal team to facilitate both maintenance and development. The attached figures (1. organizational structure and 2. management strategy) illustrate these changes (see page 3).
- Of interest to faculty, IT staff steering the assessment and replacement of the Learning Management System (Sakai) have not changed and this process has continued on schedule.

- Mr. Pierce also discussed current and future features of the Learning Commons area in Alkek, as well as future plans to upgrade the university's Enterprise Resource Planning software (currently SAP).

Meeting minutes from September 12 were approved.

Selection of the Senate Goals Group

- Janet provided a summary of the results of an earlier breakout session, in which senators discussed actions that might support the senate's theme of building community on our campus. David volunteered to lead the Senate Goals Group, which will examine this summary and draft a plan to present to the senate. Alex will randomly select two additional senators to serve in this group.

Policy Reviews

- Senator White will review UPPS 04.01.05 Network Use Policy (due September 20)
- Senator Martin will review UPPS 03.04.02 Contracting Authority (due September 26)
- Senator Vacaflares will review UPPS 03.02.10 Budgeting for Strategic Planning (due September 26)

October Bulletin Items

- Potential bullet items for October were discussed and included the following:
 - Announcement of the upcoming meeting of the full Senate
 - Information from the meeting of the Council of Academic Deans, including details of the Carnegie Fellow Application process.
 - Deadlines and submission details for the REP, Excellence in Online Teaching award, Faculty Developmental Leave program, and Nontenure Line Faculty Workload Release program
 - Upcoming University Lecturers and University Performing Arts events

Around the Table: Liberal Arts, Applied Arts

- The Senate has received a number of faculty concerns. Prior to our next meeting, Alex will distribute (via email) an updated list of concerns, which were submitted through the Faculty Senate website or to the chair directly. The spreadsheet will also detail the actions taken in response to each concern.

6:04 pm. Adjournment by Chair Alex White

Minutes submitted by Natalie Ceballos, Secretary

Figure 1. VPIT Org Chart

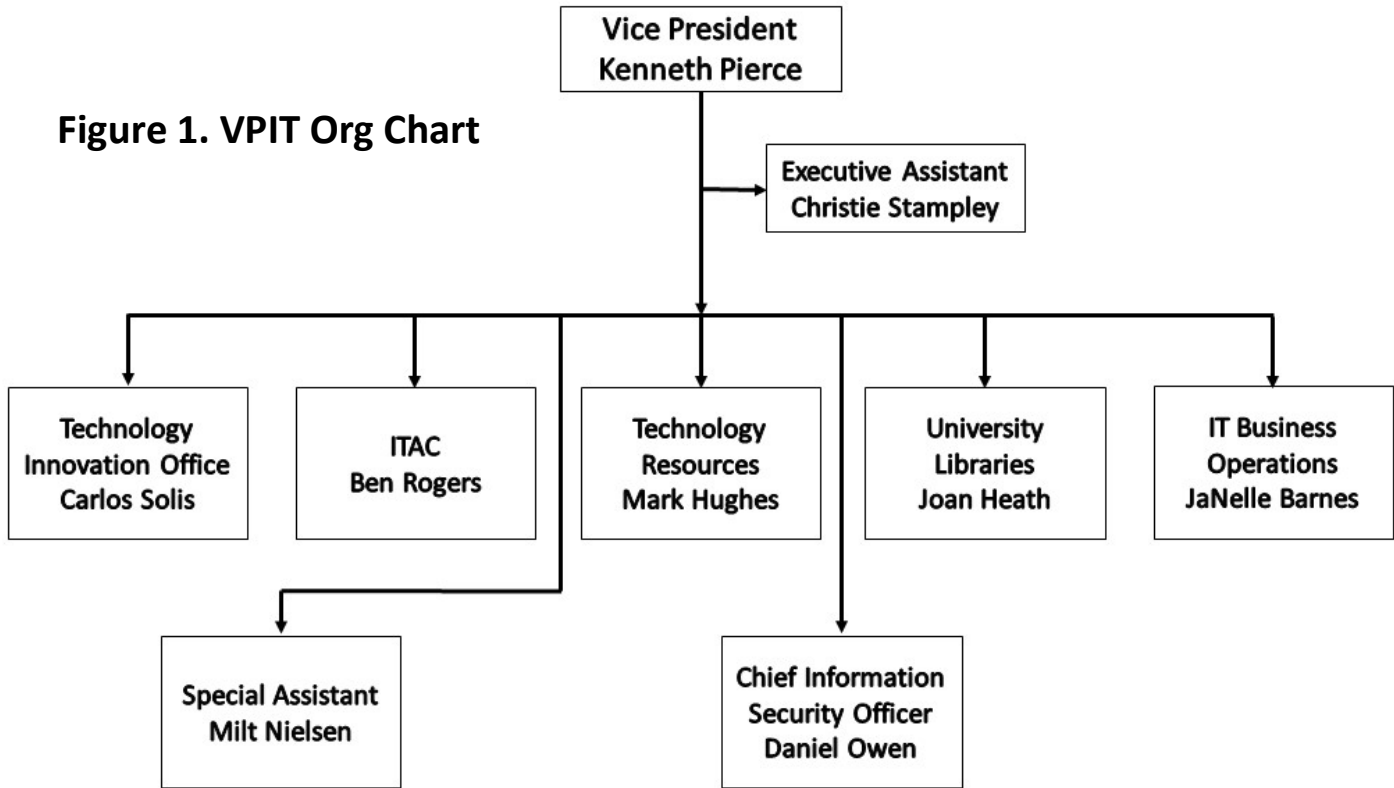


Figure 2. Management Strategy

