

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Staff Senate Update [December 6, 2023]**

**Staff Senate met on November 14**

- a. **Strategic Plan for Institutional Equity:** Lee Gill and Diana Whitlock shared the Strategic Roadmap: 5-Year Plan for the Office of Institutional Equity. This plan is based on the 6 pillars (strategic priorities) of Education & Training, Climate & Infrastructure, Recruitment & Retention, Research & Scholarship, Strategic Partnerships, and Leadership Support & Development. This strategic plan for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is connected to the overall university's strategic plan that focuses on Learn, Discover, Connect, and Work. Lee Gill emphasized this is an operational plan with recommendations for the first, second, and third years. There are at least 22 different entities across campus that will be engaged to inform the strategic plan including CODRE, COSW, Cardinal Anti-Racist Agenda, all of the senates including faculty, staff, and the student government. Student success is a priority. Questions should be directed to Diane Whitlock or Ashley O'Neil in the Office of Institutional Equity.
- b. **Web Improvement Project:** Brad Andersen and Amber Peter provided an update on the Web Improvement Project (WIP). UofL is migrating from Plone to a new system called Aqua. Most colleges, recruiting level pages, and marketing pages will migrate off Plone onto Aqua by the end of June or early July, 2024. More pieces of the project will be released to the university community in the spring. The target date for having everything transitioned to the new system is the end of the 2024 calendar year. The approach being taken is a thoughtful evaluation of all web content, not simply migrating current pages to the new system. A new Digital Experience Board will be created with campus-wide representation to inform this project.
- c. **University President Update:** President Schatzel provided an update.
  - She had attended a press conference celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of UofL Health earlier in the day. The Governor, the Mayor, and several healthcare heroes were involved in the event. President Schatzel has also been meeting with legislators by hosting a number of events on campus and at Amelia Place to focus on the operating budget in terms of capital.
  - We are excited about the groundbreaking for the Speed School building in January. However, the big ask for the legislature is the Health Sciences campus building which will be a simulation center costing \$280 million. UofL is the largest provider of nurses to the Commonwealth and this simulation center will increase the number of graduates by almost 50%. Additional graduates are needed to address the 6,000 nurse shortage in the Commonwealth.
  - The search for the School of Medicine Dean should start by the first of the year. The position will also be an EVP for Academic Health Affairs.
  - Dr. Schatzel took questions from senators.
    - i. A question about the campus response to last week's active shooter alert which turned out to be part of a regional hoax was asked. Was the campus response what it should have been? President Schatzel has received a lot of feedback about the incident and has passed information along to Chief Green. ULPD were first on the scene at Manual High School.
    - ii. When will supervisors be able to submit in-range adjustments? Dr. Schatzel directed this question to Angela Curry.
    - iii. What is the status of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the compensation study? Dr. Schatzel said that the letters to those impacted are still scheduled to go out on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December as committed. Each Vice President and each supervisor will receive a notification with the list of staff eligible for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round by the Monday after Thanksgiving. Supervisors will not be allowed to deny these pay increases.

- iv. Is there any plan to bring back the Allied Health programs? Dr. Schatzel appreciated the question and has heard this feedback before. Perhaps sometime in the next academic year a needs analysis can be completed.
  - v. Why is UofL moving forward with centralized advising when there is a lot of evidence that doesn't work well at large institutions? Dr. Schatzel referred this question to Provost Bradley since he is leading that effort.
- President Schatzel is encouraging her leadership team to make themselves available to staff senate on a regular basis.