

Staff Morale and Community Outreach

The SMCO Committee met via MS Teams on May 22, 2020

Attendees: Kenneth Allen, Andrew Grubb, Jessica Key, Angela Ren, Melissa Taylor

Committee Officers

Paul Eitel has stepped down as chair of the SMCO committee. Vice Chair Melissa Taylor has moved into the role of Chair. Jessica Key has accepted the position of Vice Chair. C&N has put out a call to fill the vacant seat on this committee.

COVID-19

Communications are still being received from the administration as decisions are made in the university's response to the coronavirus pandemic. The specifics of testing upon return to campus is a question of interest to the committee. Many unknowns about the facts of the virus as well as what our new normal at the university will look like were acknowledged.

Staff Morale

The committee discussed follow up questions to our prior meeting with Brian Buford and Diane Tobin in November 2019. A desire for consistency with professional development, pay rates, and promotional opportunities between campuses and departments were the common theme that surfaced in our discussion. Reinstatement of the Successful Supervisor training course was mentioned in the November meeting. The committee was curious of its status. Melissa Taylor contacted Brian Buford. He indicated the training has been put on hold due to the coronavirus response, but it remains a high priority when we return to campus.

Community Outreach

A prior discussion on collaborating with Faculty Senate on an informational Senate flyer to provide new employees at orientation was revisited. All agreed this would be a helpful tool for new employees; however, there is currently not a formal new employee orientation taking place during the hiring freeze to our knowledge. Melissa Taylor reached out to Brian Buford about the flyer. He also services on an NEO committee and is supportive of this idea.