Vice Chair's Report 09/13/2022 Kevin Ledford

Hey there folks. It has been a roller coaster rush headlong into the new semester. Soooo many students happy to be back on campus, and our staff have been franticly working to support them and our faculty who are teaching them. Some highlights for me have been our new senator orientation. I got to meet our new batch of Senators as they are starting their journey in being a voice for our staff.

I am excited, as tomorrow will be the first meeting of the Shared Governance Committee. This has been a long wish of mine to see this process reviewed and analyzed. I think there are some areas staff voices are not heard as much as they need to be, and I am hoping this will go a long way towards ensuring that.

We met with the postdoc program folks and were given a lot of good info to explain how that is changing.

I met with a few of our standing committees as they get off the ground with their new memberships in this term. I am energized seeing the work they are doing.

I had my first ULAA meeting. They approved the budget for the new year, and I also attended a meeting of the executive committee and saw the hiring of a new athletics director.

In Covid news, our meeting gave us info to show that numbers are down on the whole, and we are excited that we are offering the Bivalent vaccine that will also target the Omicron strain of the virus. We are also offering monkeypox vaccinations to at risk populations, and at current have seen no cases on campus.