Session Summary for June 15, 2017

Location: POB 2.302    Time: 2:00 – 3:30

- New Officers Elected for the 17-18 academic year
  - Jaime Davis, Chair – University Compliance Services
  - Page Stephens, Vice Chair – Butler School of Music
  - Ana Aguilar, Secretary – College of Natural Sciences
  - Caroline Taylor, Parliamentarian – ITS Applications

- Officer Goals for Staff Council in the 17-18 academic year
  - Improve communications and engagement
  - Make expectations for reps clear
  - Solidify committee/project work during the July retreat
  - Fill vacant district positions

- Chair’s Report
  - UT Staff Council Retreat for representatives only
    - July 20, 9am-4pm (8-9am and 4-5pm for networking)
    - Van transportation is available from main campus & carpooling from Howard Station Park & Ride
  - Revised communication expectations for meeting minutes and executive summaries: meeting summary will be sent within 1.5 weeks of meeting to all reps. Reps are responsible for individually sending summaries and any other relevant information to their constituents before the next meeting.

- Legislature Updates: changes that impact UT employees or higher ed
  - Budget update:
    - Hiring freeze lifts on September 1, 2017
    - Total UT budget increased by ~1%, but some of this money is one time funding. The university will have to reduce our budget over the next two years.
  - Sexual Assault (SB 968 and SB 969): already done at UT
    - Electronic reporting tool allows people to report sexual assault cases anonymously.
    - Provides amnesty for other student code violations
  - Habitual trespassers bill (SB 1649) increases the penalty for trespassing to a Class A misdemeanor.
  - Towing (SB 1501 and SB 2065)
    - Deregulated: license requirement removed for booting.
    - Have option to tow cars on-campus.
  - Wildflower Center will be designated as a State Botanical Garden and Arboretum starting Sep 1, 2017 (HB 394).
  - Public Junior Colleges can offer specific, high-need workforce BA/BS degrees (SB 2118).
  - Created advisory committee at the UT Bureau of Economic Geology to assist TexNet in seismic monitoring program and research (HB 28219).

- ReFresh @ UT Committee, chaired by David Barrett, launched its subsidized locker pilot with Rec Sports and PTS.
  - Email to all districts announcing 30 subsidized lockers (15 for men, 15 for women) in Bellmont received 87 applicants within first 28 hours.
  - Due to large response, locker users will be chosen at random instead of first-come, first-serve basis.