

University of Texas at Austin Staff Council

2017-2018 Officers

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UTSC Website:

staffcouncil.utexas.edu

Social media:

Twitter: @utstaffcouncil

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Session Summary for January 18, 2018

Location: POB 2.302 Time: 2:00 – 3:30

Guest Speaker –Ms. Adrienne Howarth-Moore, Director of Human Resources

- HR is scheduled to move to UTA (1616 Guadalupe) between February 5-9. More information on the HR website.
 - Exceptions: HRSS will remain in the Facilities Complex Building and the Occupational Health Program (OHP) will move to SSB 3.302.
- HealthPoint EAP is now offering Video Counseling.
- About 175 staffers a year that use the <u>Staff Education Benefit</u> (SEB) at a cost of \$840,000 to the University. Proposed changes include:
 - Graduate courses up to the IRS limit of \$5250 will no longer be taxed (disclosure: tax laws are subject to change)
 - Online courses in the UT Austin course schedule will become eligible.
 - Dissertation courses ending in 99 will become SEB eligible.
 - Supervisor verification steps will be added to show employee "meets expectations"
 - Course and/or degree plan has a nexus to your current or future employment with UT Austin.
- Adrienne Howarth-Moore will be invited back to discuss the SEB and answer more questions.

• Guest Speaker – Mr. Bobby Stone, Director of Parking and Transportation Services

- Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) is self-funded and returns \$1.7 million annually to UT.
- *Immediate* space is available in <u>four parking garages</u>: Manor, Trinity, East Campus, and Guadalupe.
- The annual cost of parking permits is going up slightly.
- Bike-Share program: partnership with B-Cycle is in progress: https://austinbcycle.com/.
- Parking Technology in the garages is being updated to crackdown on individuals who are parking illegally on campus.
- Parking permit waitlists help PTS manage a limited resource (16,000 parking spaces for a campus population of 70,000 staff, faculty, and students). Faculty have always had priority placement for permits.
 - As of two years ago, job title is used to help determine a person's waitlist placement. Salary is only used if there is no other way to decide the priority.
 - Parking Committee is having discussions on this topic and welcome staff input and perspective on the waitlist.
 - There was an error in the management of the waitlists which allowed people to slip out of the top 50 spots on the waitlist, but that has since been corrected.
- Future invite: Bobby Stone will be invited back to discuss parking on campus and answer more questions.

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- New business and announcements:
 - Nomination packets for the Regents Outstanding Employee Awards are due by January 31 ut.austin.roea@austin.utexas.edu. There are multiple winners from across UT System and the award is \$10,000. Contact Jeannie Farahnak with questions.
 - 10-minute Heart Walk: Friday, February 9th at 10 a.m.
 - Starting points: Cypress Bend Café, Littlefield Patio Café, or PRC Commons Patio.
 - Register in UTLearn http://utlearn.utexas.edu.
 - Draft of annual committee reports are due from each Chair in February. Written reports due in March and will be sent to the President's Office for their review.
 - A work-related book club for Staff Council Representatives will start in February. If you are interested in participating, complete the survey.
 - Caroline Taylor will share proposed Bylaws changes to all Staff Council members. They will be discussed more during the February meeting.
 - Bylaws were suspended to open nominations for Officer positions. Job descriptions can be found on the Staff Council wiki. Nominations should be sent to elections@utsc.utexas.edu.
- The Issues Committee is working on signage for the Turtle Pond.
 The March meeting will be moved to the 22nd because of Spring Break.