Welcome and Introductions, and Approval of Minutes
1. Meeting began at 9:00 a.m.
2. Officer elections were conducted at the previous meeting. Monica Hartman will serve as Chair and Michael Phillips will serve as Vice Chair.
3. Tassie Hermann attended for Adam Chavarria.
4. Minutes from 6/29/2016 were approved.

Administrative Report by Jerry Strawser
1. Division Town Hall Meeting: Held on July 22, 2016, the main topic of this meeting was Campus Carry which will go into effect on 8/1/2016. University Police Department has done a great job at informing the campus community on this topic.
2. Professional Development and Onboarding Implementation Teams: The purpose of these teams is to determine a timeline and action plan for implementation of the Continuous Improvement Team recommendations. The teams’ reporting deadlines are 9/1/2016, 1/1/2017, and 6/1/2017.
3. Council on Climate, Culture, and Respect: The CCCR drafted an action plan to address issues identified in the division climate survey: communication, equity and treatment, and professional development. The plan was recently presented to the leadership team. Additional information is forthcoming.
4. Major Initiative/Big Idea: Dr. Strawser is seeking feedback on a major initiative or big idea to be implemented in our division during FY17. The initiative should be something that would provide division-wide employee interaction, offer a new perspective, take us out of our normal routines, and serve as personal/professional development outside of a classroom. The leadership team came up with several ideas related to service, such as: volunteering at the food bank, building a home with Habitat for Humanity, providing mentorship to students, participating in the BUILD project, assisting with Move In Day, service related to game day activities, and greeting and handing out water to students during the first week of school. The activity should occur during regular work hours and not take away from personal or wellness time. All employees are invited to provide ideas and/or feedback on a major initiative/big idea to their EAC representatives who can forward them to Dr. Strawser.
5. New University Leadership: VP for HR and Organizational Development: Dr. Barbara Abercrombie, begins on 8/1. VP of Marketing & Communications: Amy Smith, began on 7/1. VP for Information Technology: Dee Childs begins on 8/29. This position will report directly to the President. Chief Operating Officer for Health Science Center: search is ongoing, but hope to have final candidate in place by 9/1.
6. Dr. Strawser answered questions from the committee members.
   a. Potential Budget Reductions: It was recently announced in the news that the state is considering a budget reduction for the 2017-2018 budget cycle. What might that mean for us? A budget reduction may or may not happen, there are many different scenarios on what a reduction could look like for TAMU. If the division was asked to make cuts, Dr. Strawser’s first thought would be to begin by not filling unfilled positions. The idea would be to avoid asking departments to make cuts.
   b. Student Growth: Are we expecting a large growth in our student population? The incoming freshman class should be about the same as last year. The university is having conversations on whether or not to grow our student population and what kind of impact that would have.
University Staff Council Report – Toni Eubanks

1. Staff Tuition Assistance Program: An announcement was recently made regarding this program which is now in effect and provides $1,000 per semester for 3-5 credit hours and $2,000 per semester for 6+ credit hours. More information can be found at http://employees.tamu.edu/benefits/wellness/StaffTuition. With the implementation of this program, the USC voted to suspend indefinitely the Staff Scholarship Committee.


3. USC next meeting is August 16, 2016 at 1:30 in the Emerging Technologies Building room 3002. All employee are welcome to attend.

Benefits Report by Sarah Tobola

1. Annual Enrollment: Ends 7/31/2016. Employees are encouraged to make sure their benefit information is accurate. Note that HR is now capturing gender information on spouses, so employees may see this as an action item upon login to iBenefits.

2. Plan Design Changes: Reminder of some of the great plan changes for FY17, including lower copays, reduced premiums, and lower deductibles. While it’s hard to measure, HR believes that employee participation in wellness initiatives has played a role in keeping health care expenses flat.

3. VP for Human Resources and Organizational Development: Dr. Barbara Abercrombie will begin on 8/1/2016.

4. Naturally Slim is a 10-week online weight management program available to all A&M Care members (both employees and their spouses). A new round of the program will begin on 8/8/16 for employees wishing to participate. For more information or to sign up on August 8, please visit www.naturallyslim.com/TAMUS.

5. FSLA Changes and Common Pay Plan: these changes will be effective in December 2016, so employees should see more communications on this.

Old Business

1. AED Locations: EAC members were encouraged to learn the location of their building’s AED.

New Business - none

Closing Discussion

1. The next EAC meeting will be held on August 31, 2016.

2. Meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Meeting Attendees: Keith Bornmann (UES), Bill Cox (FDA), Joe Garcia (UES), Monica Hartman (EHS), Tassie Herrmann (EHS) for A. Chavarria, Eric Irwin (TS), Cindy Ishaq (TS), Brent Kelm (TS), Carletta McClenton (FMO), Missy Mouton (IT), Michael Phillips (IT), Susan Phillips (SBS), James Smith (IT), Michael Vance (UES), Karen Bigley (Ex-Officio Office of VPFA), Ashley Skow (Ex-Officio Office of VPFA), Jane Schneider (Ex-Officio Office of VPFA), Jerry Strawser (Ex-Officio Office of VPFA), Sarah Tobola (Ex-Officio Human Resources), Toni Eubanks (Ex-Officio University Staff Council)

Members Absent: Adam Chavarria (EHS), Braly Morse (IT), Nikwai Noble (UPD), Antonio Sarate (SRPL)