

Draft Minutes for August 21, 2024
Curris Center Mississippi Room and Zoom

Present: Dedrick Brooks, Tami Dandeneau, Duane Dycus, Jodi Hanneman, Gerry Harris, Orville Herndon, Joshua Hutson, B.J. Johnson, Matthew Jones, Trish Lofton, Jeremy McKeel, Amanda Mansfield, Audrey Neal, Kim Newbern, Tressa Ross, David Shelton, Mary Steely, Kristen Swisher, Justin Thomas, Joshua Tillson, Casey Workman

Absent: Dayna Hutchinson

Guests: Dr. Renee Fister, Associate Provost; Dr. Robert (Bob Jackson), University President; Camela Ramey; Dr. Don Robertson, Vice President of Student Affairs; Dr. Tim Todd, Provost; Dr. David Wilson, Staff Regent

CALL TO ORDER: Staff Congress President Audrey Neal called the meeting to order.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert (Bob) Jackson, University President: Dr. Bob Jackson welcomed staff to the beginning of the fall semester. He gave an update on enrollment. Staff interested in assisting with recruitment through the Road Scholars Program may contact Enrollment Management. The number of first-time students entering college with some college credit earned in high school is increasing. Those students earn their college degrees in less time and, as a result, they are at the university for less time.

Office will offer matching grants for recruitment and retention. Some of the academic departments, colleges, and schools are involved in recruitment and retention efforts. Dr. Jackson encouraged them to continue those efforts. Departments and offices not currently participating in recruitment and retention are encouraged to do so.

Dr. Zou in the Institute for International Studies will be visiting academic departments to discuss international programs.

Dr. Jackson listed mental health service options available for students. The campus health services provider will change from Village Medical to Murray Medical Associates.

Dr. Jackson reported on the School of Nursing, a learning commons residence hall to be located north of Hart College, and other projects. The university is developing a partnership with the University of Louisville to provide a 2 + 2 school of medicine. Dr. Jackson reported on the Centennial Campaign that was launched in 2022, the year of hundredth anniversary.

