



# Staff Council Standing Committee Minutes

**Committee Name:** Ethics

**Meeting Date and Place:** 1000 on 22 July 2021, via Zoom

**Members Present:** Lisa Beauchene-Lawson, Stephen Murillo, Ignacio Ortiz, Brian Vineyard

**Members Excused:** Kristina Rucker

**Members Absent:** None

**Guests Present:** A councilor who raised a concern and is remaining anonymous

**Minutes submitted by** Ignacio Ortiz

	Subject	Notes	Follow-Up
1	Call to order	Meeting called to order at 10:04 AM	N/A
2	Approval of agenda	Agenda was approved by unanimous consent	N/A
3	Approval of prior minutes	The minutes from the previous minutes were unanimously approved.	N/A
4	Review future meeting format/schedule	<p>a) Group discussed plans for future meetings. One member had a conflict for the next scheduled meeting on August 12. The group agreed to switch the meeting date to Tuesday, August 17 at 10am.</p> <p>b) The group discussed keeping a hybrid meeting format or possibly meet in-person in the MCM building for those that are on campus. One member will likely continue to work remotely, so a hybrid or zoom meeting will be needed.</p>	Continue discussion in August meeting
5	“SC Strategic Plan alignment update” request	The group discussed a request to review the SC Strategic Plan and provide feedback on alignment for any ethical considerations within the plan. The group reflected on the activities for the last year that were in alignment with the strategic plan. Lisa participated in the university-wide Ethics Task Force representing SC and the Ethics Committee. This aligns with Advocacy, Objective 1 and 4 to create and revise policies for UNM that address staff interests. Ethics Committee will continue to have representation on this UNM-wide initiative.	Brian sent group response to Grace and Angie
6	Concern	<p>a) Group discussed a concern that was brought forward regarding serving on multiple committees and if there are conflicts of interest or other considerations that would prevent or encourage the Counselor to share information between committees when the same or similar topics are discussed.</p> <p>b) Themes/questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Should councilors on multiple committees participate in the conversation at a committee meeting based on their knowledge of the topic being discussed at other committee meetings. The group agreed that this is appropriate and usually beneficial to the discussion and any eventual action that the committee. The group also acknowledged the potential issues that may arise. Counselors in this situation should use discretion and share only the most relevant information between committees to facilitate good decision-making.</li> <li>b. Should the Speaker assign reviews to permanent committees? The group discussed this and more information was needed.</li> <li>c. Should Staff Council establish a standard process where all major motions, bylaw changes, or resolutions are automatically assigned to all three permanent committees for review/comment. The group agreed that this would be an appropriate process to establish and would encourage more cross-committee communication on important SC matters.</li> <li>d. Discussed voting status (or not) of Past President on Exec (issue ongoing, still TBD)</li> </ul>	Counselor who raised concern will follow-up with us if needed or desired

		<p>e. Discussed optics of someone being on three powerful committees (Exec, R&amp;E, DEI)</p> <p>f. Overall consensus of Ethics was that person who raised concern is not doing anything wrong at this time, and if anything the overlapping involvement may bring efficiency to an important issue that otherwise is already requiring a large amount of time from three important committees which could otherwise be doing other work in support of Staff Council endeavors.</p>	
<b>7</b>	Review Staff Council Code of Ethics	Deferred until next meeting	
<b>8</b>	Continue Committee Charge Discussion	Deferred until next meeting	
<b>9</b>	Other future business	The group briefly discussed reducing the quorum within the SC governing documents from 4 to 3. The group agreed to continue to discuss and potentially ask Rules and Elections to comment on this proposal before moving forward.	Brian contacted Rules & Elections, waiting on reply
	Next Meeting	Tuesday 17 August 2021 via Zoom or in-person in MCM conference room	Adjourned at 10:59 AM