

**DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

*Minutes*

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**Meeting date: February 12, 2024**

**Members in attendance:** Dr. Vicki Bingham, Dr. Edwin Craft, Ms. Lisa Giger, Dr. Tomeka Harbin, Dr. Ellen Green, Dr. Leslie Griffin, Dr. Christopher Jurgenson, Mr. Mike Kinnison, Dr. Eddie Lovin, Dr. Christy Riddle, Ms. Fawn Ussery, Dr. Merideth Van Namen, Ms. Haley Rooks, and Mr. Larry Wakefield (recorder – Ms. Jamie Claire Smith)

**Members not in attendance:** Dr. Dan Ennis, Mr. David Gladden, Ms. Holly Ray, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Dr. James Gerald, and Ms. Ashley Tanksley

**Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the University Leadership Council was held in Room 302A in the H. L. Nowell Union on February 12, 2024. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Lovin presiding.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion by Dr. Jurgenson and seconded by Ms. Ussery, all University Leadership Council Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the University Leadership Council Meeting held on January 29, 2024.

**BUSINESS**

**Action**

**Mississippi Deferred Compensation Program policy (revised)..... Mr. Wakefield**

Mr. Wakefield brought the revised Mississippi Deferred Compensation Program policy to the University Leadership Council for review and approval. The Mississippi Deferred Compensation Program plan is a voluntary, supplemental, tax-deferred retirement savings plan offered through PERS. The program provides supplemental income upon retirement, a withdrawal for unforeseeable emergencies, and a withdrawal settlement upon termination of employment. Ms. Giger informed the Council that individuals will not be penalized for taking money out before reaching a certain age.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Wakefield to approve the revised Mississippi Deferred Compensation Program policy and seconded by Ms. Giger. The motion was approved.

**State Retirement- Public Employees' Retirement System policy (revised) ..... Mr. Wakefield**

Mr. Wakefield brought the revised State Retirement- Public Employees' Retirement System policy to the University Leadership Council for review and approval. Ms. Giger informed the Council the policy was revised to match current practice.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Wakefield to approve the revised State Retirement- Public Employees' Retirement

System policy and seconded by Ms. Giger. The motion was approved.

**Unemployment Insurance policy (revised) ..... Mr. Wakefield**

Mr. Wakefield brought the revised Unemployment Insurance policy to the University Leadership Council for review and approval. The University pays the premium for the coverage that provides unemployment compensation for individuals during periods of time when they are out of work through no fault of their own. Benefits are payable up to 26 weeks to unemployed workers.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Wakefield to approve the revised Unemployment Insurance policy and seconded by Dr. Harbin. The motion was approved.

**Worker’s Compensation policy (revised) ..... Mr. Wakefield**

Mr. Wakefield brought the revised Worker’s Compensation policy to the University Leadership Council for review and approval. Worker’s compensation provides payment for indemnities and medical expenses as a result of injuries/illnesses, accidents, and loss of time from work when employees become disabled from a job-related illness or injury without regard to fault as to the cause of the injury or occupational illness/disease. The Council made grammatical revisions to the document that will be changed by the policy owner.

**Motion:** Moved by Mr. Wakefield to approve the revised Worker’s Compensation policy and seconded Dr. Jurgenson. The motion was approved.

**Discussion**

**PolicyStat .....Dr. Craft**

Dr. Bingham requested clarification on how members of the University Leadership Council should edit policies within PolicyStat and if the policy owner is the sole individual permitted to edit a policy. Dr. Craft informed the Council only the policy owner can make changes; however, Council members can visit PolicyStat and leave comments within the policy to advise on grammatical revisions.

**Additional information**

- Mr. Larry Wakefield updated the University Leadership Council on the Budget Sustainability Committee.
- Ms. Lisa Giger updated the University Leadership Council on Title VII Training.

**NEXT MEETING:**

- Next Meeting – Monday, February 26, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.