



UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**

STAFF COUNCIL



A photograph of two women smiling and posing together. They are wearing red sweatshirts with the word 'REDEMPTION' printed in large white letters. The woman on the left is wearing sunglasses and has her arm around the woman on the right. The woman on the right is also wearing sunglasses and has her arm around the woman on the left. The background is blurred, showing other people and greenery. A semi-transparent dark red box is overlaid on the image, containing the title and list. A solid red vertical bar is on the far right edge of the slide.

PURPOSE

- ▶ Serve as an advisory body to the University of Houston administration.
- ▶ Promote a positive and meaningful interchange among staff, faculty and students.
- ▶ Provide activities, forums and communication to improve information exchange and staff morale.
- ▶ Promote recognition of the staff contribution to the mission of the University and to involve staff in decisions impacting their activities.

A photograph of four individuals in uniform standing in front of a building entrance. In the center is a man in a white short-sleeved shirt with a radio and a badge. To his left is a woman in a dark blue uniform. To his right is a woman in a red polo shirt. On the far left is another woman in a red polo shirt. The background shows a building with large windows and a glass door. A semi-transparent dark box is overlaid on the image, containing the title and a list of bullet points.

HISTORY

- ▶ Created by charter signed by UH Chancellor Richard Van Horn on February 28, 1986.
- ▶ First election: June 1986
- ▶ The First Council had 19 members: 16 representing specific areas and 3 at-large positions.



GOVERNANCE

- ▶ By-Laws: Define rules for the government of Staff Council members and the regulation of its affairs and operations.
- ▶ Constitution: Adopted on August 1, 1996. This document sets out the basic principles, scope of responsibility and duties of the Staff Council.
- ▶ Funding for Staff Council maintenance, operations, and the Program Manager's salary is provided by the Office of the President.



2020 STAFF COUNCIL

- ▶ Forty members
 - ▶ 42 representing specific divisions
 - ▶ 3 at-large
- ▶ Includes members from the academic colleges, professional, management, and support staff
- ▶ Members serve on two committees, one Staff Council committee and one standing university-wide committee each year.
- ▶ Staff Council Program Manager



2020 STAFF COUNCIL OFFICERS

Staff Council elects its officers each August

- ▶ President* : Andy Moon
- ▶ President-Elect : Shanequea White
- ▶ Immediate Past President* : Emily Merrell
- ▶ Secretary : Leslie Pruski
- ▶ Treasurer : Elsie Myers
- ▶ Parliamentarian : David Frankfort
- ▶ Historian : Karl Hearne

*Elected in previous years

COMMITTEES

▶ Staff Council

- ▶ Appointments
- ▶ Communications
- ▶ Cougar First Impressions
- ▶ Events
- ▶ Membership and Elections
- ▶ Professional Development
- ▶ Staff Affairs

▶ University

- ▶ Bookstore Advisory Committee
- ▶ Safety and Security Committee
- ▶ Homecoming Steering Committee
- ▶ Student Centers Policy Advisory Board
- ▶ LGBTQ Resource Center Advisory Board
- ▶ + 15 more

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Recommends staff representatives to Staff Council standing and other University committees including:

- ◀ Title IX Grievance Committee
- ◀ Women & Gender Resource Center Advisory Board
- ◀ Faculty/Staff Traffic Court
- ◀ Food Service Advisory Committee
- ◀ Safety and Security Committee
- ◀ Sustainability Task Force
- ◀ Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee

A photograph of three men sitting in front of a metal railing. The man on the left is wearing a red polo shirt with a 'UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON' logo. The man in the center is wearing a black hoodie with 'HOUSTON' and a cougar logo. The man on the right is wearing a red polo shirt with a 'UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON' logo. A semi-transparent dark red box is overlaid on the image, containing the title 'COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE' and a list of responsibilities. A solid red vertical bar is on the far right edge of the image.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- ▶ Responsible for all Staff Council external communication
 - ▶ Website
 - ▶ Newsletter
 - ▶ eComms
- ▶ Conducts the Staff Council New Member Orientation
- ▶ Provides communication support for other Staff Council committees.
- ▶ Approves and distributes Cougar Cudos

A photograph of several people at an outdoor event. In the background, a banner reads 'WELCOME' with a cougar head graphic. Below it, another banner says 'UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON STAFF COUNCIL'. People are wearing red t-shirts with 'COUGAR' and 'STAFF COUNCIL' text. A man in a striped shirt sits in the foreground with a blue backpack. A red vertical bar is in the top right corner.

COUGAR FIRST IMPRESSIONS

A semi-annual campus wide event to increase interaction among faculty, staff, students, and the UH community by providing maps, directions, information, water, and other amenities to students during the first two days of the fall and spring semester.

Much of the funding for this committee comes from donations.

Cougar First Impressions celebrated its 21st year in 2019!

- ▶ CFI Volunteer Training
- ▶ CFI Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon



EVENTS COMMITTEE

Plans & coordinates all Staff Council-sponsored special events for UH staff including:

- ▶ Sock & Blanket Drive
- ▶ Annual Spring Egg Hunt
- ▶ Staff Council Holiday Potluck
- ▶ Staff Council Leadership Luncheon
- ▶ Tax Prep Day
- ▶ Staff Mixers



MEMBERSHIP AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

- ◀ Coordinates and validates all Staff Council elections.
- ◀ Recommends nominations to the Staff Council President for filling vacancies.
- ◀ Reviews the apportionment of representation among the University's divisions as required by the Staff Council Constitution and By-laws



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- ▶ Provides scholarship management for:
 - ▶ Staff Council and WGRC Scholarships (10)
 - ▶ B. Renae Milton Students of Staff Scholarship (1)
 - ▶ Rodger Peters Scholarship (1)
 - ▶ Professional Development Stipend (In Work)
- ▶ Work on various initiatives to improve and add staff professional development programs.

A background photograph of a meeting room. Several people are seated around a long table covered with a red cloth. The room has large windows and a high ceiling with recessed lighting. A red vertical bar is visible in the top right corner of the image.

STAFF AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Reviews and provides recommendations on all issues affecting UH staff, including:

- ▶ Benefits
- ▶ Parking
- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Annual "Conversations with Staff"
- ▶ Annual "Staff Focus"
- ▶ Employee Survey every two years



STAFF COUNCIL MEETINGS

- ▶ General meetings
 - ▶ First Thursday of each month
 - ▶ Open to all UH staff
 - ▶ Minutes posted to Staff Council SharePoint site
 - ▶ Required attendance of all staff council members
- ▶ Executive Board meetings
 - ▶ Last Thursday of each month
 - ▶ Required attendance of all committee chairs and officers
- ▶ Staff Council Committee meetings
 - ▶ Various times/locations on regular basis
 - ▶ At least once every three months

A photograph of a park scene where a group of people, including children and adults, are playing baseball on a grassy field. In the background, there are large, leafy trees and a building. The scene is captured from a low angle, with the heads of people in the foreground visible at the bottom. A semi-transparent dark rectangle is overlaid on the middle of the image, containing the title and list. A solid red vertical bar is located in the top right corner of the slide.


Recent Accomplishments

- ▶ Hosted the 3rd “Take Your Child To Work Day” Program.
- ▶ Rebranded Staff Council Elections and increased staff voting participation.
- ▶ Awarded two B. Renae Milton Students of Staff Scholarships for 2019-2020.
- ▶ Live streamed the 2019 Staff Focus event to increase UH Sugarland campus participation.



What's Next?

- ▶ Mark your calendar and plan to attend all monthly staff council meetings.
- ▶ Start thinking about what University Committee you'd like to serve on.
- ▶ Sign up for a Staff Council Committee.
- ▶ Let others know in your area you're a Staff Council representative so you can bring their concerns to meetings and share information.



We Welcome Your Participation

- ▶ www.uh.edu/staff-council/
- ▶ Office: 713-743-1578
- ▶ Fax: 713-743-8849
- ▶ Email: staffcouncil@uh.edu