

# Employee Advisory Council

## The University of Texas System

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### 2018-2019 Officers

Shannon Rios,  
UT San Antonio  
Chair

Jeannie Farahnak,  
UT Austin  
Vice-Chair

Lisa Smith,  
UT Rio Grande Valley  
Secretary

Michael Aldape  
UT Rio Grande Valley  
Historian

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Executive Sponsor:  
Julie Goonewardene,  
Senior Advisor to the  
Chancellor  
Chief Talent and Innovation  
Officer  
Managing Director The  
Horizon Fund

Administrative Support:  
Sarah Pekar,  
Senior Benefits Analyst

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UTS EAC Website:

[www.utsystem.edu/sites/  
employee-advisorycouncil](http://www.utsystem.edu/sites/employee-advisorycouncil)

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# One System, One Voice

Meeting Summary for June 4– 5, 2019 at UTMB Health-Galveston

## Meeting Summary

- Donna Sollenberger, Executive Vice President & CEO of UTMB Health System, provided a brief welcome message and explained the history of UTMB since 1891.
- The UTMB Professionalism Committee conducted a workshop with the EAC regarding the principles for a “professionalism conversation”.
- Dr. David L. Callender, FACS President UTMB Health, welcomed the EAC and shared his goals for UTMB for years to come. Dr. Callender also spoke about connecting and Teamwork as keys to success.
- EAC voted on the 19-20 Executive Board, here are the election results.
  - o Tilly Clark, UT Medical Branch, Galveston, Chair
  - o Tricia White-Rhemtulla, UT MD Anderson, Vice-Chair
  - o Kathy Murphy, UT Southwestern, Secretary
  - o Latoya Oduniyi, UT Arlington, Historian

## Sub-Committee Reports

- **Staff Recognition/ ROEA Committee:** The committee will be drafting a letter to request reinstatement of the Regents’ Outstanding Employee Award and repackage the award to UT System administration and the Board of Regents.
- **Advancing Diversity and Equality in Leadership Committee:** Presented on the research and data regarding age, gender, and ethnicity disparities across all 14 institutions. The committee will be working on an executive summary and whitepaper.
- **Employee Experience Committee:** Presented their findings after 100% survey participation across all UT Institutions. This will help facilitate communication on professional development offerings across all UT Institutions. Deliverables will be a survey results report, survey data report given to institution representatives with noted themes and potential areas for opportunities.
- **One System, One Voice Committee:** Sarah Pekar completed Website updates, and a brief review of SharePoint was shared. The communication guide is in the review process and will be shared with the EAC in September. The new EAC newsletter will be ready for the September meeting.

## Updates from UT System

- Texas Legislative sessions are available to view online.
- UT System Administration is actively engaged in the legislative process to address issues of access, affordability, student success.
- Hurricane Harvey resulted in tens of millions of dollars in insurance claims. For FY18, cost of insurance risk across the System and institutions totaled \$38,670,000.

## On the Horizon

- Regents Meeting: August 14th- 15th, 2019 in Austin
- Next EAC meeting: September 24th -25th, 2019 in Austin

