

## North Carolina Internship Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 22, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams

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**Members Present:** *Dr. Susan McCracken (Chair), Shrikar Nunna, Alan Briggs, Elizabeth Goodwin, Dr. Bryle Hatch, Dr. Monty Hickman, Dr. Patrick Madsen, Edwin Moore, Melissa Parks, Dr. Ashley Wells, Hon. Donna White, Paul Worley, Shawna Young*

**Members Absent:** *None*

**Department of Administration (DOA), Council for Women & Youth Involvement (CFWYI) Staff, Adjunct Reviewers Present:** *Sara Darwish, Mary Williams-Stover, Audrey Meigs (intern), Katie Hall*

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**Meeting was called to order by Chair Susan McCracken at 1:00 p.m.**

**Welcome** was given by Susan. Sara notified everyone of housekeeping items.

**Internship Report:** Sara and Audrey recapped the 2020 summer internship program and changes necessitated by the emergence of COVID-19. They also covered intern demographics, including but not limited to gender, race/ethnicity, school, and home county.

**Intern Panel:** Two 2020 state interns (Michael Davis and Cara Kuuskvere) joined the call to share their experiences and insight with the council. They described their assignments and how they fit with in their agencies (Administrative Office of the Courts and Department of Environmental Quality, respectively). Councilmembers were able to ask the interns questions regarding outreach suggestions and their ability to adjust to remote work, among other things.

**Legislative Advocacy Training:** Katie Hall of DOA and Shrikar Nunna of DEQ provided the council with legislative insight into the process of raising state interns' wages. They gave an in-depth background on the General Assembly and its legislative process, as well as the Governor's Office's methods for creating an annual budget request. They provided councilmembers with tips on how to successfully lobby members of the General Assembly, how to use higher education resources and intern testimony, and timing suggestions. The council agreed to revisit the wage increase initiative after the 2020 election in November.

**Office Report:** Mary delivered updates to the council on behalf of the Council for Women & Youth Involvement. New initiatives shared with councilmembers included the 2020 Status of Women Report: Political Participation and related publicity events. She also shared that the Human Trafficking team was commencing the second year of Project C.O.P.E.'s Lead Initiative and their radio campaign.

Adjournment at 2:30 p.m.

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