LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



Taylor Randall, President University of Utah

Education Interim Committee Wednesday, May 15, 2024

2:45-2:55 PM HB 261

3:10-3:15 PM HB 438 and SB 192

HB 261

DIVERSITY STATEMENTS & HIRING QUESTIONS

- As of February 15, 2024 all hiring units at the university were instructed to discontinue the use of any type of diversity statements or similar practices as part of their unit-level applicant or employee hiring processes.
- A personal value statement in a syllabus or in the classroom should have a pedagogical purpose. Faculty are encouraged to review Faculty Code (6-316) as a useful framework.
- Office of Faculty will review all new job posts for compliance.
- Hiring guidelines for main and health campus being updated.

HB 261

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL CAMPUS GUIDELINES

- Administrative guidance published on the following topics:
 - Section I: Use of Words "Diversity," "Equity," and "Inclusion"
 - Section II: Hiring Pools
 - Section III: Institutional Relationships
 - Section IV: Admissions Applicant Pools
 - Section V: Trainings
 - Section VI: Membership in Federally Recognized Tribes
 - Section VII: Student-Led Initiatives
 - Section VIII: Data Collection

HB 261

THE DIVISION OF EDI AND PERSONNEL

- The EDI division will be eliminated on July 1.
- Full-time employees working in the division's main campus and U of U Health offices, this shift may mean changing
 job titles, broadening some job descriptions and reassignment to other campus offices.
- Many student support staffers will shift to positions in Student Affairs.
- Communications and marketing staff will move to University Marketing and Communications.
- And Vice President Mary Ann Villarreal will become a special advisor to President Randall.
- Student resource center staff who served in the division—including the American Indian Resource Center, Black Cultural Center, Center for Equity and Student Belonging and Dream Center—also will shift to report up through Student Affairs.