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| **Professional Staff Senate Minutes**  Thursday, April 14, 2022  2:30 – 4:30 p.m. – Virtual |  |

[Check-in Generator Question](https://checkin.daresay.io/): One word to describe how you are currently feeling.

In Attendance: [Link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1W3SwiPQiHC1EY-Y7VXXm2___m4XrBLGyrsUUU8kzgHE/edit?usp=sharing)Non-Senators in Attendance: Marlayna Desmond, Elle Trusz, Paige Bauder, Steven Anderson, Danielle Brown, Natalia Panfile

##### ***Land Acknowledgement***

##### *UMBC was established upon the land of the Piscataway and Susquehannock peoples. Over time, citizens of many more Indigenous nations have come to reside in this region. We humbly offer our respect to all past, present, and future Indigenous people connected to this place.*

2:35 p.m. Call to Order

[**Approved April 2022 Meeting Agenda**](https://umbc.app.box.com/file/823233158698?s=oxhtlzvfm4dc2bph8aniguvdlhnhlin9)

[**Approved March 2022 Meeting Minutes**](https://umbc.app.box.com/file/823225186507?s=bh747prlgblrqs0m6v02ry6w3xxquvlq)

2:40 p.m. Election Update

* Task for senators-- send two staff members the [nomination form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScNcCARjZCDrj4JojOl6WWr6Euk16UJKjqNXXCmyMjOjC8HSA/viewform), we are needing submissions for the upcoming elections
* Deadline for nomination submissions: Tuesday, April 19th

2:45 p.m. Brian Souders – **Fulbright Opportunities**

* [Presentation link](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1eWdWIt5f2iqRjZ6dLyYQPxyEUWqZyCO6/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=113815963083407902719&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* Open to current graduate students
* Brian ensures students are receiving the full support and guidance needed in order to submit the application materials
* Deadline August 31st
* We’ve had 30+ students awarded in the last three years
* Do they have to be US citizens? Yes
* [UMBC News Fullbright link](https://news.umbc.edu/umbc-is-named-a-fulbright-top-producing-institution/)

3:00 p.m. Valerie Thomas – **Telework**

* Wanted to see what the transition to 5-day in person could potentially look like based on responses from the UMBC community
* HR was not in the business of approving the telework agreements, this was on VPs and Deans
* Partnering with Staff Senates to assess what is working and not working
* Met with VPs and Deans--- it took no convincing, folks are happy with their schedules and honoring flexibility
* Help HR help you! [Tell Us About Telework link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLiouZ0X7aqHPAm1JyAaTWr9yOn4-YVG2pKlPN-3BCrjmmbw/viewform)
  + Note that transparency around posting salaries as part of a job posting was brought up
  + We [PSS] will continue this discussion and work as a collective

3:30 p.m. **Small Group Discussions – Building an inclusive PSS**

How do we continue to build inclusive community among PSS Senators

* Things to be mindful of as we move forward and bring in new senators
* Small group discussion ([link to collection of responses](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe74tRvMuEmdLxoCM39TkTgPKayuMv33bGC0M9GiX5Ly6FDXQ/viewform))
  + Book several meeting spaces around campus to do hybrid pods
  + Virtual and in-person lunch/coffee meetups
  + Share-outs at meetings
  + Start meetings earlier for informal catch-up time

4:00 p.m. **Campus Announcements**

College Signing Day

* As a refresher, College Signing Day takes place every May 1 as part of an effort with Better Make Room to celebrate the new students joining colleges each year
  + May 1 is a Sunday this year, so we'll be doing an "ask me anything" with a Grit Guide on that day
  + then we'll do the actual posting and promotion on Monday, May 2
* Two drop-in filming sessions (tomorrow, April 15th and Monday, April 18th)
  + Welcome our new students
  + This year we’re giving individuals and/or groups the option to stop by during a video session and have us record your welcome message for you!
  + Shared on UMBC’s social channels, and copy will be sent to those who participate to share on their own as well
  + Filming will take place at True Grit statue
  + [College Signing Day Welcome Video sign-up](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpTK37hftQt6PsL5JMCPAFvepBlsWOFfS2XtgV7w8vorvAFA/viewform)

Save The Date – Celebrating the Transformative Leadership of Freeman Hrabowski, III

* *And the founding of the Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, Endowment for Student Excellence*
* June 4; doors open at 6pm, event starts at 7pm, party starts at 8pm
* Location: Chesapeake Employers Insurance Arena
* Get your tickets! [Event link](https://president.umbc.edu/celebrate/)

Chief Human Resources Officer Search

4:10 p.m. **Committee Updates**

Transportation

* MTA Employee stickers
  + Stickers are available to Regular Full-Time Staff/Faculty ONLY and entitle you to free services on the MTA buses, light rail and subway
  + Adjuncts, CI and CII employees are not eligible at this time
  + Stickers are available at the Parking Services Office, Monday to Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM
  + Please bring your Campus ID when picking up so that we can verify your eligibility
  + If you have issues boarding or questions from drivers regarding the service, please email us at [parking@umbc.edu](mailto:parking@umbc.edu)
  + For more info, [MTA Employee stickers link](https://parking.umbc.edu/mta/)

SOD

* Meet & Eat:
  + Had a Meet & Eat yesterday! 5 folks joined in on the hangout
  + This will be a monthly event for the spring semester—feel free to join and/or share with your staff friends!
  + Meet & Eat, on campus, every month 12pm – 1pm
  + Event posts on PSS myUMBC
* PSS Cookout
  + Don’t have funds until July 1
  + If cookout happens in late June, it won’t be invoiced until after the FY

Mentoring

* In-person event next Thursday, Meet & Greet (last event for this year’s cohort)
* Social gathering off campus at Guiness after Meet & Greet!
* Currently working on Speed-event for new mentor/mentees
* [Application link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScJ00cEWuq_6S42CmBf_tdGF9UYCgcUbR-waiMaM8i0ks1wEA/viewform) is LIVE! Deadline: Monday, May 2nd
* Reach out to Laila for questions about Mentoring program

**General Announcements/Open Forum**

* **HAPPY HOUR!!!**
  + Mentoring Committee was planning to meet up at **Guiness this Thursday, 4/21, around 5pm**
  + We're extending the invitation to ***all of PSS***, so please stop on by!
  + Calendar invitation was sent!