Faculty Senate Meeting

November 14, 2023

ONLINE

Agenda

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement 2 minutes

Hello everyone, and welcome. Let us start with UMBC’s Land Acknowledgement: UMBC was established upon the land of the Piscataway Conoy and Susquehannock peoples. Over time, citizens of many more indigenous nations have come to reside in this region. We humbly offer our respects to all past, present, and future indigenous people connected to this place. While we recognize the importance of acknowledging those who came before us, we also know that truth-telling is only a small gesture, and we must take action towards the necessary work of repair.

Thank you all for being here today. I am sorry we could not be in person, and I’ll look forward to gathering with you all in December, back in UC 312. Since we are all online today, let me remind you of our online procedures for questions: If you have a question, please simply note “question” in the chat, and Loren will call on you in the order in which you’ve so noted. With so many people on the call, it is hard to see the raised hands, so we really appreciate your following this protocol.

You’ve all received the agenda electronically, and I’d like to begin with two amendment to the agenda: The first is that our provost is on the west coast and unable to join us today, so we will move directly from the president’s remarks to the approval of the agenda. The second is that the second item under “new business,” the proposal for S/U grading for the Graduate school should be marked as an information item; we will vote on it next week.

And now, without further ado, our president, Valerie Sheares Ashby.

1. Remarks from the President – V. Sheares Ashby 15 minutes

Thank you, Valerie- Any questions, Loren? You have all received the minutes from the October meeting. Are there any additions or corrections? Seeing none, the minutes are approved.

1. Approval of the October 10, 2023 minutes 2 minutes

I have a few updates to share. To begin, for many of us, the violence in Israel and Palestine is a daily preoccupation. All of the senators and senate leadership received an email urging action on behalf of Israel, many of us have been asked to sign onto letters in support of Palestine. All of us as faculty have the privilege of both free speech and academic freedom, and we should all exercise that right, in our classrooms, in our scholarship, in our public lives. That means being willing to be uncomfortable, to hearing things we might not want to hear, and engaging opposing views in good faith. And I promise you that I will use whatever power I have to protect that fully for us all.

Last month, I tag-teamed with Executive Committee Member and Library Senator Katy Sullivan to the Faculty Senate Chairs CUSF meeting. It was a lot of introductions, but here are a few take-aways I’d like to share with you all:

Questions? We’ll now move onto our committee reports, beginning with the report from the Council of University System Faculty.

Remarks from the Faculty Senate president- S. McDonough 5 minutes

1. Committee Reports
   1. CUSF- A. Froide, T. Nohe, N. Neerchal 10 minutes

Thank you, Amy/Tim. Our next committee, Organization and Operations, is represented by its chair Nancy Kusmaul. Nancy?

* 1. Organization & Operations- N. Kusmaul 10 minutes

Thanks, Nancy. We’ll now here from Andy Miller, the Grad Council Liaison. Andy?

* 1. Graduate Council – A. Miller 3 minutes

Thanks, Andy. Dawn Biehler will give us a report from Academic Budget and Planning. Dawn?

* 1. APB – D. Biehler 3 minutes

Thanks, Dawn. Finally, Beth Feeser will share the UGC report. Beth?

* 1. Undergraduate Committee – B. Feeser 3 minutes

Thanks, Beth. We’ll now move to new business, and begin with the Year Three Review from INDS, presented by Steve Freedland. Steve?

1. New Business
   1. INDS Year Three Review—S. Freedland 7 minutes
   2. Draft S/U Grading Policy for Graduate School— J. Rutledge 10 minutes
   3. Issues in the Legislature- C. Dodson-Reed 20 minutes
   4. Results from the Faculty Workload Survey – M. Castellanos 20 minutes
2. Announcements 2 minutes
3. Adjournment