**Nonexempt Staff Senate (NESS)**

**The Non-exempt Staff Senate (NESS) represents non-exempt staff not under collective bargaining, offering them a voice in shared governance.  NESS encourages its members to share any problems or concerns so that they can: initiate the proper action to assist the members; keep members informed of issues and actions that may affect them; and to encourage dialogue between the members and senators.  NESS continually strives to develop and maintain open communication with the administration so they can serve members to the best of their ability.**

**What is Shared Governance?**

**Shared Governance is a collaborative decision process between the UMBC administration, faculty, staff, and students, all working together as a community who are dedicated to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service.**

**Why should you get involved in NESS?**

**Shared Governance affects all UMBC stakeholders which includes the administration, faculty, staff, and students. Issues such as compensation and classification, input on leadership searches, benefit changes, and many other items are discussed and debated within our shared governance system. Becoming involved in NESS allows you to introduce your ideas or policy proposals, voice your opinion on proposed or existing policies, and become more informed about the policies and procedures that impact your work at UMBC.**

**How do I get involved in NESS?**

**It’s easy!  Just join us at one of our meetings. At our meetings you will experience firsthand just what NESS is all about, what we do and what we have accomplished. Please get involved with NESS and help us make a difference.**

**Where and when are the meetings held?**

**The meetings for academic year 2018-19 will be held from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.**

**September 13, 2018, Administration 729**

**October 11, 2018, Commons 329**

**November 15, 2018, Admin 929**

**December 13, 2018, Admin 929**

**January 10, 2019, Sherman Hall 113**

**February 14, 2019, Sherman Hall 113**

**March 14, 2019, Sherman Hall 113**

**April 11, 2019, Sherman Hall 113**

**May 9, 2019, Sherman Hall 113**

**Please consider joining us at a NESS meeting. It is a great way to meet other members and to share your thoughts, suggestions, and voice your concerns.**

**If you would like to join the NESS myUMBC group, please visit** [**https://my3.my.umbc.edu/groups/nonexemptstaffsenate**](https://my3.my.umbc.edu/groups/nonexemptstaffsenate)**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Diana Smith at** **dlsmith@umbc.edu** **or by phone at 410-455-6805.**