**TENTATIVE MINUTES**

UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

Friday, December 14, 2018

The monthly meeting of the University Steering Committee of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (the Committee) was held on Friday, December 14, 2018, at 1 p.m. in 1005 Administration Building. Chair Adam Harvey and the following members were present: Damian Doyle, Gunes Koru, Bobby Lubaszewski, Roy Prouty, Diana Smith, Collin Sullivan, and Melody Wright. In addition, the following were present:

* Candace Dodson-Reed, Chief of Staff, Office of the President
* Leslie Kruger, Executive Administrative Assistant, Institutional Advancement
* Brandon Liu, Assistant Speaker, SGA Senate

PRESENTATIONS

THE WISDOM INSTITUTE

Diane Lee, Director, The Wisdom Institute

WE BELIEVE YOU

Nadia Benaissa, President

Jessica Lease, Vice President

Dakota Monsen-Murray, Founder

BUSINESS

MINUTES

Damian motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was adopted by majority vote with one vote opposed.

The Student Government Association did not have a report in the minutes at the time the minutes were approved; they planned to add a report later.

Plan of Organization Changes

After collaborative group discussion, Damian motioned to add the following text to Article V, Section A:

If any representative of the Steering Committee is unable to attend a meeting, the representative may appoint from their senate’s executive body (or the Student Government Association Steering Committee) a representative to attend in their stead with voice and vote.

The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

After collaborative group discussion, Damian motioned to replace Article VI, Section E with the following text:

E. Each University Committee shall submit reports to the Steering Committee or a Senate, as follows:

1. All University Committees shall submit a written report on activities to the Steering Committee at least once in the fall semester and once in the spring semester upon request from the Chair of the Steering Committee or designee.
2. The Steering Committee has the right to request more frequent reports as appropriate.
3. The following University Committees shall also submit reports to the Faculty Senate: Athletics Policy Committee, General Education Committee, Graduate Council, Information Technology Committee, Library Policy Committee, Research and Creative Achievement Council, Special Sessions Policy Committee, Undergraduate Academic Conduct Committee, and Undergraduate Council.

The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

The Steering Committee shall promptly transmit the text of such proposed amendments to the five Senates. Each senate has three working months to act or forfeit its right to decide on the issue.

Advisory Committee Structure

Concerned about a lack of transparency with the Retriever Courage initiative, Adam suggested that a diagram, clarifying the structure, would be helpful and proposed to facilitate a meeting with leaders of the Faculty/Staff Advisory Committee and Student Advisory Committee before the beginning of the spring semester.

Human Relations Committee

Adam motioned to create the *Human Relations Committee Committee*. This committee will discuss the state of the Human Relations Committee and the current language in the Plan of Organization (Article VI, Section I) and submit recommendations to the University Steering Committee on how to best create a useful and active Human Relations Committee. The motion was adopted by majority vote with one abstention. Adam will reach out to senate representatives who volunteered to serve on the committee and organize a meeting.

USC Survey Report

On October 3, 2018, the Committee sent a campus-wide survey seeking input on specific ways in which UMBC could become a safer, more supportive learning community for all. The survey contained two questions:

* What can be done to make you feel safer on campus?
* How can we help our community be successful in improving the campus culture and environment?

Committee members decided not to share the summary of responses, prepared by Kiki Malomo-Paris, with the campus community but to make the summary available to the Implementation Team.

Proposed Title IX Regulations

Title IX Coordinator Bobbie Hoye provided an overview of key provisions of the U.S. Department of Education’s proposed Title IX rule, the federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities that receive federal funding. The Department's proposed Title IX rule will be open for public comment for 60 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register.

January Meeting

Committee members decided not to meet in January (the January meeting is tentative depending on need and consensus of the group).

SENATE REPORTS

*Due to time constraints, senate reports were submitted in writing after the meeting.*

Faculty Senate

There was no report on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

Graduate Student Association (GSA)

* The GSA continues to investigate the feasibility of an Emergency Loan Program.
* The GSA is facing issues regarding the eligibility of various graduate programs for the GSA Grants Initiative.
* The GSA is considering a restructure of its senate representation, which would require a reduction in senators. This is not looked at favorably by the senators, but the Executive Committee thinks it could increase engagement.
* The GSA held a Title IX Town Hall, focused on how to deliver comments to the Federal Register.
* The GSA Committee on Legislative Concerns is focusing on bills in Annapolis regarding Hate Crimes, Income Tax (w.r.t. Qualified Higher Education Expenses), Property Tax Credits for Robotics Programs, and Collective Bargaining.
* The GSA is concerned with the role collective bargaining -- or simply the right to collectively bargain -- might play in increasing the cost of Graduate Assistantships at UMBC and across the USM.

Non-Exempt Staff Senate (NESS)

* NESS members met with representatives from the Department of Human Resources to discuss job classifications and reclassifications for nonexempt staff.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE

There was no report on behalf of the Professional Staff Senate.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA)

November

* The SGA organized a series of events in coordination with the midterm elections. *Coffee and Conversation* explored healthcare issues in Maryland; early voting busses were provided to undergraduate students that lived in adjacent counties; over 100 people checked their voter registration or actually registered to vote at a drive; *Dinner with Friends* featured seven simultaneous dinners discussing local issues; and *Election Night Extravaganza* was a huge watch party with games, prizes, and tons of pizza with over 250 attendees.
* Senate and Finance Board confirmed the Election Board Chair and seven members to serve on the Election Board. The SGA believed this was the earliest time in SGA history that the full Election Board had been confirmed.

December

* In partnership with the GSA, the SGA lead the second Student Advisory Committee meeting of Retriever Courage and facilitated the election of their officers.
* The First Year Ambassadors, a mentorship program within the SGA, lead the annual Stress Free Zone event. Over 250 undergraduate students attended this event filled with activities to help people reduce stress before finals.
* Speaker Lilly Keplinger resigned from her post. The Senate elected Jared Richard to serve in this role.
* The Finance Board allocated over $210,000 to student organizations throughout the fall semester. Less than $65,000 remains for allocation. Student organizations have been encouraged to submit their spring semester requests as soon as possible as some requests may not be funded.

January

* Senate and Finance Board are on recess for Winter Break.
* SGA Steering Committee and members of the Finance Board are reviewing existing Finance Board procedures on how to allocate funds to student organizations. A new process will be introduced in late February and phased in throughout the spring semester with full implementation by May of this year.
* Several officers resigned over break due to ineligibility and/or changes of time commitments due to the new semester. Vacancies include one Finance Board representative; five Senators; and 10 positions throughout the Executive Branch.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Candace reported on behalf of the President’s Office.

* Candace reported that two meetings had been scheduled between UMBC and Saint Agnes Hospital to discuss the potential addition of sexual assault forensic exams, also called SAFE exams, as well as other partnership opportunities.
* The President’s Holiday Open House will be Wednesday, December 19, 3-5 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom.

OTHER

Adam asked Committee members to think about whether individual votes should be spelled out in minutes as a matter of transparency. He also believed it would be valuable for the Committee to host a town hall on matters related to Retriever Courage. These topics were not addressed due to time constraints.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Committee will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, February 8, 2019, at 1 p.m. The meeting will be held in 1013 Administration Building.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie A. Kruger