

**Research Council Meeting
September 8, 2017**

Attendees: G. Koru, J. Schumacher, L. DiCuirici, B. Arnold, K. Pande Joshi, S. Bediako, T. Adali, B. Lowenthal, K. Steiner, D. Engel, C. Kowalewski, T. King-Meadows, M. Cather, K. Bowman

Chair Gunes Koru welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made by all committee members.

Discussion: Karl Steiner - OVPR

Dr. Steiner welcomed the members of the council and commented that the OVPR values input from the Research Council.

Earlier this week the leadership from NASA Goddard was on campus for a visit. This was a two-fold visit.

- To update them and to thank them for the NASA centers that we have. It was agreed that more frequent meetings should be happening between the two entities to look at how to get more students and faculty involved.
- The ribbon cutting for the new Earth and Space Institute which is located on the 3rd floor of the Physics building. Led by Vanderlei Martins, Professor of Physics.

Discussions are being had with the Maryland Department of Health due to the sizable contracts through MIPAR and through the Hilltop Institute. Over the last year or two, the state has been looking at the contracts that they are giving to USM institutions which are long standing purchase orders. Some state people believe that these should be negotiated on more of a frequent basis.

Meeting to be held on Monday with the State.

There was a brief conversation involving the climate among students.

Students were gauged pertaining to their experience in their respective majors via "Survey Monkey" and the Deans office hosted a TownHall.

Implementation of Strategic Plan overview was provided by Karl Steiner.

Eight to nine months ago, his office asked for input about the infrastructure and he received input in a more broad form. Now this needs to be formatted.

The Provost is committed to working with the Deans and VP's and it's a fluid document that they are working on. Feedback will be provided in the November meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Rose Drohan.