

APPROVED MINUTES – 1/5/2018

UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

Friday, December 1, 2017

The monthly meeting of the University Steering Committee of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (the Committee) was held on Friday, December 1, 2017, at 1 p.m. in 1013 Administration Building. Chair Roy Prouty and the following members were present: Adam Harvey, Gerardo Herrera-Cortes, Gunes Koru, Josh Massey, Diana Smith, Ashley Waters (by phone), and Melody Wright. In addition, the following were present:

- Lisa Akchin, Associate Vice President, Engagement; Assistant to the President
- Leslie Kruger, Executive Administrative Assistant, Institutional Advancement

BUSINESS

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

The Steering Committee has oversight responsibilities for five University Committees:

- Athletics Policy
- Human Relations
- Information Technology
- Landscape and Stewardship
- Library Policy

Three of these committees also report to the Faculty Senate:

- Athletics Policy
- Information Technology
- Library Policy

Two committees report exclusively to the Steering Committee:

- Human Relations
- Landscape and Stewardship

Representatives from Human Relations and Landscape and Stewardship committees will be invited to report to the Steering Committee in January or February.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Roy briefly described three administrative committees, which are not part of the Plan of Organization, and encouraged senates to get involved with these groups on a voluntary basis if there was interest.

- Campus Climate Coordinating Group
- Climate Action Steering Committee
- Space Management Committee

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

The Research Council has a new title: the Research and Creative Achievement Council. Gunes will provide substantiating documentation, so the name of the committee can be changed in the Plan of Organization.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee would like to hear from stakeholders, including current Human Relations Committee members, past committee members, and members of other groups that are doing similar work before making any decisions about reorganizing or replacing this committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Roy encouraged Steering Committee members to build institutional support – perhaps through ex-officio members – for University Committees into the Plan of Organization.

FUTURE PLANS FOR THE RAC

Some PSS members have expressed concern that there hasn't been enough discussion with campus constituents about what is going to happen with the RAC once it is vacated. Lisa relayed that a small group of administrators, led by Vice President for Administration and Finance Lynne Schaefer, will be identifying how the space will be used. This small group – or Lynne Schaefer herself – will be meeting with shared governance groups to discuss concepts.

SENATE INFORMATION REQUESTS

Roy is requesting documents, such as rosters, committee representatives, meeting schedules, and action plans, from individual senates.

PULSE CHECK

Melody relayed that a potential tax on tuition waivers currently being considered by Congress was of great concern to the Biological Sciences Department.

JANUARY MEETING

Committee members have elected to meet in January (the January meeting is tentative depending on need and consensus of the group).

SENATE REPORTS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Josh and Gerardo reported on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA).

- SGA has solidified an agreement with the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences to allow student organizations to use performance spaces in the PAHB. SGA will be meeting with department chairs to discuss implementation, which is a three-phase process. Advocating for student spaces on campus continues to be a priority for the SGA
- SGA has been convening student organizations within the same category designation. There are over 270 student organizations.
- SGA will invite approximately 500 public high school students from Baltimore City to visit campus – an event called College Day, which will be held in the spring. Past efforts focused on Howard County.

- Coordinator of Student Life for Campus and Civic Engagement Craig Berger has departed UMBC. Assistant Director of Student Life for Civic Agency David Hoffman is temporarily serving as advisor to SGA.
- The Senate is discussing how to better engage undergraduate students and improve their college experience.
- Stress Free Zone will be held the week of finals.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE

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

NON-EXEMPT STAFF SENATE

Diana reported on behalf of the Non-Exempt Staff Senate (NESS).

- NESS is discussing ways to engage newly hired non-exempt staff.
- The general election is over. There are 12 duly-elected senators. Officers will be elected at the next meeting.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Roy reported on behalf of the Graduate Student Association (GSA).

- GSA has approved a proposal to increase graduate program fees from \$16 per credit hour to \$17 per credit hour. There are additional steps in this process, including a Student Fee Advisory Board and the University System of Maryland.
- The Grants Committee is recommending changes to the grants system.
- The Legislative Concerns Committee is advocating against the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act currently being considered by Congress.
- An ad hoc committee created to gauge interest in NVIVO, qualitative data analysis software, is working with other groups on campus to collect data.
- GSA is working with UMBC Transit on a proposed route to Columbia.
- Planning for the Graduate Research Conference is underway.

FACULTY SENATE

Gunes reported on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

- Multiple faculty members are interested in NVIVO, qualitative data analysis software that the GSA is considering.
- President Hrabowski discussed the Coalition v. MHEC decision.
- The Behavioral Reassessment and Consultation Team delivered a presentation about students who may be disruptive and potentially dangerous.
- Spring 2018 commencement ceremonies will be held on campus in the UMBC Event Center. Traffic and other logistics were discussed.
- The faculty senate approved the report of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee about the approval of the post-baccalaureate certificate for the principles of management of aging services and the three-year review of philosophy.
- The Faculty Senate voted to fill two open positions on the University Faculty Review Committee, an advisory committee to the Provost on matters of promotion and tenure.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Lisa reported on behalf of the President's Office.

- The first phase of the university branding process is complete. In this phase research was gathered on the university's current brand – how it is perceived, etc. In the next phase internal branding and marketing teams along with consultants will begin to develop the new brand platform for the university – the language used to describe the university as well as tone and feel. The creative process will begin with a full-day workshop on December 12. At the end of the day, a series of focus groups will be held to gather immediate feedback from stakeholders, including shared governance groups. Senate presidents will receive additional details from Lisa in the near future.
- UMBC is on the verge of finalizing a lease for a space on East Drive in Arbutus to create an off-campus space for students, staff, faculty, and community members to gather. The concept, initiated by students and embraced by campus administration, is the first step toward creating a college town adjoining the campus. The new venture will be called OCA Mocha.

OTHER

There were no other items for discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Committee will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, January 5, 2018, at 1 p.m. The meeting will be held in 1013 Administration Building.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie A. Kruger