**University of Baltimore – University Faculty Senate**

Meeting Minutes: August 22, 2013

Attendance:

**Senators:** Dan Gerlowski (MSB / UFS President); Stephanie Gibson (CAS); Christine Spencer (CPA / UFS Vice President); John Callahan (CUSF); Julie Simon (CUSF); John Brenner (Adjunct); JC Weiss (MSB); Stanley Kemp (CAS); Catherine Johnson (Library/ UFS Vice President); Dennis Pitta (MSB); Jose Anderson (Law); Bob Bogomolny (University President); Jack Bates (CAS); Laura Bryan (on behalf of the Provost)

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by UFS president Dan Gerlowski.

1. May minutes and amended agenda **approved unanimously**

2. Provost report, Dean Laura Bryan representing Joseph Wood

-Deans feel there need to be guidelines about merit pay and will be presented at next meeting

-Search going on for an interim dean for business school, to be completed ASAP

-Search also ongoing for Associate Provost replacement

-Proposal to centralize several student activities in CAS has been approved

-Faculty additions have been approved and a large number of searches are ongoing or pending for this year, most are replacements though there are a number of supplemental hires

- Interviews for writing director is ongoing, replacement for John Gonsher

2. Stan Kemp is **approved unanimously** as UFS secretary

3. UFS is looking for senator from CPA and law school to join UFS executive committee, George Julnes and Jose Anderson have stepped forward and are **unanimously approved** by senate

4. Endorsement of a fixed contract period is requested by the provost, with a special interest noted for the law school. A proposal will be forthcoming in September with assistance from law school faculty.

5. President’s report

- welcome to faculty; is looking forward to building on the redesign of the shared governance, promoting increased staff participation

-Summer - lots of renovations and moving of faculty and staff; facilities and OTS have done an exemplary job

-Learning commons should be up and running by the time class starts

-The former Moot court in the learning commons is now the town hall

-Lots of long dark hallways in the learning commons and we hope to address

-New veterans center opening in area where honors was formerly quartered in first floor academic center

- Looking to continue making this place a preferred place to work, through improvement of work spaces and offices

-Design competition for the Langsdale library should start in October; hopefully renovation can begin early summer 2014

-Merit pay is going forward

-Faculty salary study is underway although there have been delays, they are reviewing everything but the College of Arts and Sciences at this point (pending data to compare with market) and the library is more complicated; Looking at September in terms of the data; Simpson Consulting is the consultant company being used

- Noted that competitive nature of salaries versus merit pay increases, these two are different things

6. Peter Toran strategic plan update

- Draft is published online finished 8/9/13

-Campus community will be engaged in dialogue about this draft in the next step; through Town hall meeting, electronic communications, existing organizational meetings

-Plan should be up and running in mid- October so the dialogue will occur in a window of the next six weeks or so

-Action plans will be reviewed annually

-Possible town hall will be arranged for September 18, same time as this meeting or later during MSB blocked out time of 200 pm

-STEM education is to be included specifically in strategic plan to address achievement gap, building on environmental sustainability and other existing resources

7. The senate **unanimously approved** the award of an honorary degree to proposed commencement speaker

8. Committee membership: Catherine Johnson has been updating the list of members for the committee, list should be improved with committee input and completed by September. Catherine Johnson will continue reaching out to individual senates to find replacements.

-Reminder to faculty that there is a public website [www.ubalt.edu](http://www.ubalt.edu)\governance, where they can get all of the information about UFS, meeting minutes and agendas

-Charges for the committees this year a document has been prepared listing specific initiatives for each UFS committee; it was pointed out that the document had a large amount of content. That content is to be shared with the committees as they exist now (some may have vacancies) and feedback from the committees sought regarding timelines and missing/additional initiatives. All initiatives are thought to be within the charges of the committees.

-Will set up a discussion forum on Sakai needs to be picked up by September 4 th This discussion forum will isolate the individual committees and their respective sets of specific initiatives for further discussion. Hopefully by 9/4 at least some of the specific charges will be approved by UFS.

9. A vision statement has been drafted for the UFS this year and distributed for review and comment; we will have to match this up with what actually gets done this year

10. GSC update – Dan Gerlowski/Catherine Johnson

- Needs to be a bit more oversight of what the committees under government steering council do, they shouldn't be working in a vacuum. Technically the University Committees are to be charged by the 3 constituent senates (Students, Faculty, and Staff). The UFS needs to think about issues to forward to each of the 3 committees. The GSC will coordinate those charges.

- Steering council is not a decision making group it is a coordination group

11. Task force on enrollment study group

- report is 130 pages long

-President Bogolmony says a summary might be a misleading picture of a complex issue and misinformation should really engage, there are data that are very sensitive and should not be made public

-Based on this information it was decided to invite Dave Bobart , Jeffrey Sawyer and George Julnes to discuss their knowledge of the report, and also possibly other faculty who were involved in the report, rather than forming a new special task force

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:23 pm