

GSC Meeting- 02/06/2015

Attendance: All GSC members were in attendance for the meeting Comitz, Gerlowski, Jonson, Schnirel, Tull, Woolehand

1. Darlene Smith presented on Middle States.
 - a. Requested representatives from faculty, staff and students
 - b. Noted that she still needed to confirm a time to speak with the SGA
 - c. What is Middle States?
 - I. Focuses on two fundamental questions involving institutional assessment and continuous improvement.
 - i. Are we, as an institutional community, achieving what we want to achieve?
 - ii. What should we do to improve our effectiveness in achieving our fundamental aims?
 - II. The MSCHE report compiles evidence of 14 accreditation standards
 - III. Recommends a Self-Study Steering Committee and Four themed committees
 - IV. The Steering Committee should include
 - i. Two Co-liasons
 - ii. Four Themed Committee Co-Chairs
 - iii. Four Administrative Working Group Co-Chairs
 - iv. Provost
 - v. President or his designee
 - vi. One Academic Dean
 - vii. Three UB Governance Representatives (faculty, staff and student senates)
 - viii. One Board member of the UB Foundation or Alumni Association
 - ix. One Representative, University System of Maryland
 - V. Self-Study focuses on four themes
 - i. Institutional Planning, Resources and Assessment
 - ii. Student Learning and Success
 - iii. Mission, Leadership, Administration and Integrity
 - iv. Educational Offerings and Delivery
 - VI. Two year process but most of the “heavy lifting” will be done next year
 - VII. Themed committees likely to be formed this semester shortly after or before UB’s visit from Middle States representative.
 - VIII. GSC asked numerous questions about the plan and voiced an opinion that the plan is a good blueprint to lead us through the upcoming and ongoing process.
2. UBSS
 - a. Strategic plan handout kept to a single paper.
 - I. Motion by D. Gerlowski to thank Peter Toran on behalf of the GSC for presenting the Staff Senate. By resolution, the GSC thanks V.P. Toran for sharing a one page version of the UB Strategic plan with the University Staff Senate. The GSC also respectfully points out that the plan involves numerous

and detailed goals and that we look forward to enumerating the objective and measurable outcomes associated with those goals.

- i. Seconded by B. Schnirel.
 - ii. Motion passed unanimously
 - b. UB Staff Awards
 - I. Passed resolution to Staff Senate requesting that each Dean and Vice President nominate at least one person for a Board of Regents Awards, beginning in 2015.
 - II. Motion to forward to the president
 - i. Seconded by S. Comitz.
 - ii. Motion passes unanimously. (communication forward post meeting and prior to meeting notes approved)
 - c. Budget Committee
 - I. Shows increases in campus employment over some time period.
 - II. While the University Budget Committee worked diligently in finding answers to questions from the USS, the Budget Committee was not able to get the detailed information beyond the divisional level from the University's Administration and Finance office. Motion by D. Gerlowski GSC resolution. The GSC encourages the Staff Senate to review the information presented and submit an additional request to the University Budget Committee if additional detail is desired.
 - i. Seconded by B. Schnirel.
 - ii. Motion passed unanimously
 - d. Next meeting on Monday 2/9
 - e. Work Life Committee
 - I. Spoke with the President and President approved work life survey.
 - II. Has access to past survey info.
3. SGA
 - a. SGA Senate ratified the USMSC legislative agenda
 - b. They will have several guest speakers in the coming weeks including:
 - I. Mason Paris (Office 365)
 - II. Courtney Smith (SEPSC Representative)
 - III. Stephanie Shafer (UB Market)
 - c. SGA Senate voted in favor of a student fee increase after Senior Vice President King returned with more information.
 - I. D. Gerlowski questioned why students would want the fee increase.
4. Faculty Senate
 - a. Working hard
 - b. Budget news
 - I. President Schmoke reported that the Cost of living increase this year is not an increase to base salary but is a one-time bonus
 - II. President Schmoke reported to UFS that the likely budget cut for 2016, will be largely same as this semester
 - c. At the Feb. UFS meeting there was general support for MSCHE plan

- I. Expressed concerns about the magnitude of the commitment by faculty at a point after faculty portfolios have been determined
 - II. Expressed concern that possibly some of the MSCHE work could be accomplished by existing committee structures.
 - III. Felt fearful of the possibility that the detailed data required for MSCHE would not be forthcoming from the University
- d. Expressed confusion as the MSCHE team was asked, by agenda item, for a current statement of where we stand relative to the 14 standards. The MSCHE team replied that such an assessment would be undertaken after the teams were formed this Spring. President Schmoke replied that such an initial assessment was not 'fair' in the sense that not all divisions were aware of, or prepared for, the logic and metrics of the MCHC assessment paradigm. Some concern about the handling of late admits and late registrations this Spring 2015 semester.
- i. One of the deans reported that approximately 40 students were admitted to classes without a transfer evaluation done this semester.
 - II. The UFS presented data to itself that students who register after classes start are not as successful as those who register before.
 - III. The UFS expressed its concerns that while we talk about the need to increase student quality and the potential for academic achievement here at the University, there are sometimes steps taken in what appears to be the opposite direction.
5. Adjournment at 3:16 PM