University of Baltimore  
Governance Steering Council  

MINUTES  

Wednesday, September 13  
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
LAP 105  

Present: James Hale, Mariame Dangnokho, Kiever Jordan, JC Weiss, Stephanie Gibson, Darlene Smith.  
Absent: Keanuu Smith-Brown.  

James Hale elected chair of GSC for AY18.  
We will meet: second Wednesdays at 11.  

Announcements  
- Staff senate asked to take on leadership in MD Charity Campaign. Asks for UFS support.  
- Spirit week: First week of October. Homecoming atmosphere. Sara Ousby is lead on communication. 10/1/25 was first day of classes at UB. We supported this as Spirit Week.  

Will vote to approve principle of new committee formation  
1. We will send a call for initiatives in spring  
2. We will work with the Provost to determine what initiatives will be taken up  
3. A member of the EC will chair each committee & be accountable  
4. Committees have floating membership determined by tasks  
5. GSC will help populate the committees  

Proposed University Committee Charges:  

Culture and Diversity committee charge.  
1. Faculty (and Staff) Diversity plan to recruit, promote, and retain diverse faculty  
2. Create a University Diversity plan  

Responsible people: Sheila Burkhalter, Darlene Smith.  

Facilities Committee  
1. Develop a plan to repurpose the Learning Commons.  
2. Examine uses for postal site.  
3. Examine and make recommendations regarding appropriate use of classroom space.  
4. Assess the following:  
Responsible person: Neb Sertsu.  

Work Life Committee  
1. Assess possibilities for AY calendar farther out (18-24 months)
2. Assess strategies for workplace flexibility
3. Evaluate and make recommendation about having an ombudsperson
4. Improve communication of policies and clarify areas of responsibility for department chairs and staff supervisors. Develop training for incoming chairs/supervisors.

Responsible person: Mary Maher or Sally Reed.