**University of Baltimore**  
 **Governance Steering Council Agenda**  
**August 20, 2021**

All members were present at the meeting.

* **Introductions and Updates from Senates**
  + President Schmoke
    - President Schmoke thanked the group for convening for the first GSC meeting of the year, welcomed new members, gave an overview of the shared governance process, and advised that the work of the GSC this year will focus in large part on compliance with the BOR Task Force Reports. GSC members should report back to their constituencies on the status of issues. Additional areas of focus include return to campus issues and public health concerns.
  + Interim Provost Andersen
    - Interim Provost Andersen introduced the work of the Provost’s Office as managing the academic portfolio of UBalt, including ensuring an excellent student experience. While declining enrollment is an ongoing issue, there is a lot of hope and a great deal of good work being done to change the enrollment tide. Open and respectful communication is critical to this effort and having multiple perspectives (faculty, staff and students) will enrich the conversation.
  + Student Government Association President Khoshkepazi
    - The SGA has passed three resolutions: Resolution #7: University of Baltimore Student Government Association Formally Supports the October 15, General Strike; Resolution #8: Asking The University of Baltimore To Enact Additional COVID-19 Safety Precautions in Light of Rising Covid-19 Cases, in an effort to reduce the risk of a vide spread campus outbreak of the Delta and/or Gamma Variant; and Resolution #9: Asking The University of Baltimore to Conduct A Campus Climate Survey Resolution.
    - There is also planning underway for a spring festival and ongoing improvements to Inclusion Alley in time for National Coming Out Day.
    - Discussion of Resolution #7 centered on how UBalt Administration, faculty and staff can best support this student-led activity. President Schmoke will advise UBalt’s Executive Team and Department Heads of the resolution; UBSS Chair Mulligan advised she would take the request of the SGA for the UBSS to support the resolution to the UBSS Executive Team.
    - Discussion of Resolution #9 resulted in a decision for the SGA to work with the Diversity and Culture Committee on the idea of a campus climate survey.
  + Student Bar Association President Coleman
    - Orientation for 1L students started the week of August 16, 2021, in full compliance with UBalt’s mask mandate. This is the largest 1L class in Law School history. Additionally, a mini-orientation is being held for 2Ls since they were not on campus last year.
  + UBalt Staff Senate Chair Mulligan
    - The recent work of the UBSS included onboarding new members and FY22 work-planning by the Executive Team.
    - Return to work discussions have centered on the need for equity for staff when it comes to work from home decisions and campus access. UBSS is asking for more transparency at the University level as to how department heads are being guided on staffing decisions.
    - Discussion of these concerns resulted in a need to create a FAQ for department heads and their staff. Vice Chair Gleeson will work on updating the faculty FAQ to serve this new purpose.
  + UBalt Faculty Senate President Kiel
    - Faculty Senate is looking to establish better overall communications procedures with constituents, including a more feasible hybrid meeting experience.
    - There is a great deal of concern around returning to in-person teaching and also remaining in online instruction mode.
* **New Business or Discussion** 
  + Staffing and Charging the University Wide Committees
    - GSC is able to charge the campus committees with tasks.
    - First step in the beginning of this FY is to look at each committee and what they do, starting by looking at the most recent EOY report, the charter, and the committee membership, and finally creating a guiding document for each committee for this FY.
  + Committees
    - Diversity and Culture: This committee needs a co-chair appointed from the President’s Executive Team. The chair will report to the GSC and the President to make sure Diversity and Culture are always included as part of Executive Team meetings. Daniel Khoshkepazi will review this committee.
    - Work Life: Nico Gleeson
    - Facilities: Tara Mulligan
    - Strategic Planning and Budgeting: Mike Kiel
    - Policing and Community Relations: The police have a new commander and trainers. Kyle Coleman
    - Enrollment: Aaron Wachhaus
  + The Joint Fall Meeting
    - This has been tabled for now.
  + Pandemic and Reopening Concerns: addressed above in reports from meeting participants.
  + The Chair and Vice Chair
    - Chair: Mike Kiel
    - Vice Chair: Randy Wells
  + New Business
    - Creating a central repository for GSC documents is a needed task for this FY; TBD on what this will look like/how it looks.