**Governance Steering Council Minutes for October 16, 2020**

Attending were all members except Provost Catherine Andersen, Amadou Bah was a substitute representative for the Student Government Association

* Reports from the three governance bodies
  + The University Faculty Senate had a productive conversation on buildings, access, and campus health at their most recent meeting which seemed to dispel some inaccurate information and improve understanding of the physical campus. After a long effort the Senate is also pleased to have finally passed an anti-bullying policy. Work is beginning on the writing of a new workload policy, and the group awaits the Board of Regent’s taskforce report.
  + The Staff Senate has finalized and announced official representation on University Wide Committees, passed Resolution #3 supporting the celebration of Indigenous People’s Day and discussed the Maryland Charity Campaign. The Staff Senate also eagerly awaits the Board of Regent’s taskforce report.
  + The Student Government Association thanks the other groups for the support towards recognizing Indigenous Peoples’ Day and is currently working on an Election Day related resolution asking for professors to be open to accommodations to facilitate student voting and election related work during the pandemic.
* Old Business
  + Names have been forwarded to the chairs of the University Committees now that these committee chairs have been finalized
  + The GSC should create a spreadsheet in order to maintain membership lists
* New business
  + How can we build morale and understanding between faculty and staff?
    - Faculty need to take some initial steps
      * Being careful about conflating staff with central administrators
      * Both groups should be careful about sweeping statements about who has been hurt the most
    - A dual senate meeting?
      * Possibly once a semester
      * A good target date would be when committees report in May
    - Faculty, and really everyone, should have a greater understanding of how The University of Baltimore works
      * This might look like short videos of some kind that are used in new employee orientation
    - Joint social events might be helpful
* Changing student representation on the committee to include the SBA
  + It’s unclear how this is addressed in the bylaws, but is seems like we can do so through a simple vote.
  + One way to do this would be possibly adding a member for this year, then lowering down to one SGA and one SBA next year
  + A draft resolution will be made for the next meeting and Pavan will contact the SBA President in the meantime to extend an invitation and ensure the GSC is understood