**University of Baltimore**
 **Governance Steering Council - Minutes**
**September 15, 2023**

* In attendance
	+ UBFS – Kris Eyssell & Al Gourrier
	+ UBSS – John Brenner& Kate Anderson
	+ SGA – Peter Stevenson & Abedamarajo Olateru-Olagbegi
	+ SBA – Erin Esterson
	+ Ex Officio – Mike Kiel
	+ Ralph Mueller (Provost)
	+ Kurt Schmoke (President)
* *Brief discussion of attendance at Jamie Raskin event*
* Approval of the Agenda
	+ Yes
* Approval of August Meeting Minutes
	+ Yes
	+ (already on website – thanks, Mike)
* Introductions and Updates
	+ Kurt Schmoke
		- More specific information on traffic impact caused by Artscape
			* Email Sunday or Monday
			* Unclear when Mount Royal/Charles will be closed
			* Meeting today with Eric Costello and Artscape leadership
			* Planning accordingly is necessary
				+ Impact as early as Tuesday evening
				+ Thursday is hard stop last day
		- *Discussion*
			* Kris 🡪 Tuesday in person classes?
			* Mike 🡪 express displeasure in lack of planning
				+ UB, Lyric, Symphony, MICA penned a letter
	+ Ralph Mueller
		- Excited for Artscape, unaware of challenges
			* Change in date enticing
		- Faculty focus 🡪 problematic innovation
			* Specific colleges
		- Student organizations
			* Student success council that meets biweekly
				+ *Discussion*

Peter 🡪 any students on this committee?

No, but Deans of four schools/colleges

Three meetings thus far, very new

* + - * + Goals

Begin conversation with students and administrators

Increase retention rate

Develop institutional identity

* + Peter – SGA
		- General Forum Meeting several weeks ago
		- Administrative Meet and Greet
			* SGA spoke about platforms
		- Academics Committee
			* Providing electronic textbooks for free
				+ Students that can’t afford choose to go without
			* Must be communicated through faculty
			* Work with library system
		- *Discussion*
			* Al 🡪 not just communication, but requires faculty coordination and approval
	+ Erin – SBA
		- Financial updates and planning hallmark events with Brian O’Connell and Procurement
	+ John – Staff Senate
		- First UBSS meeting in person since COVID
			* Senators and even some constituents attended
				+ To continue in that format
			* Salary survey
				+ Considering implications, actions
			* To Kurt 🡪 please bring back Service Awards Ceremony
			* Strategic enrollment committee
				+ Has not met since May
				+ Representation from Staff, Faculty, Students?
		- Vaccine clinic via Health Department
			* New COVID and flu vaccine
			* Planning and support needed for Early October
		- Text Alert System
			* Sign up
			* Traffic alerts, too
	+ Kris – Faculty Senate
		- Attuned to the rumor mill
			* Remote work policy grumblings
				+ Work life committee in action
				+ Next steps at meeting in October
			* Identity concerns
			* Support for students, student government, staff
		- *Discussion*
			* Mike 🡪 forcing committees to file minutes in UFS Sharepoint
				+ Not much pushback for minimum standards for Canvas use
* Old Business
	+ Bylaws inconsistencies
		- Arose out of an Informal meeting with staff and faculty senate
	+ Glaring issues:
		- (1) NOT a governance body
			* information sharing purpose, well documented in foundational documents
			* Bylaws
				+ Assign issues to UB committees
				+ Have oversight of those committees
		- (2) SBA not mentioned consistently
			* conflicts
		- (3) who can call a GSC meeting
		- (4) timing and requirements for joint meetings
	+ John 🡪 philosophy and purpose of GSC, more than procedural
		- Consider structure of shared governance, specifically committees
		- Plan for the future
	+ Mike 🡪 root of problems
		- (1) GSC is both governance and not a governance body
		- (2) clarity in university wide committees function
			* Guidelines document
				+ All university wide committees report to GSC
				+ But they don’t?
	+ Peter 🡪 Academic Policy committee reports directly to UBFS
	+ Kurt 🡪 what suggestion?
		- Kate 🡪 amend documents to adjust how GSC operates OR reflect how GSC operates in relation to UB wide committees
		- Kurt 🡪 used as conduit for information sharing, not needed as governance group
			* Run into faculty and student issues
		- Mueller echoes
	+ Process
		- Requires approval from all governance bodies to made structural change
			* Plan of organization
				+ Members of three out of four governance bodies
			* Changes to bylaw document requires approval of GSC
		- Mike 🡪 Committees should not be a part of individual plan
			* Not meant to be permanent
		- John 🡪 approach since we’ll need two different approvals?
			* Kate 🡪 they work in tandem, may not be logical to split
			* Kris 🡪 start with umbrella then see how bylaws dovetail or not
				+ Some things in Organization Plan that should be in Bylaws
	+ AD HOC COMMITTEE: Peter, someone from SBA, John
		- Kris, Mike to assist
		- Can be appointed outside of GSC
		- Pro bono opportunity for law student\*
	+ Mike on University Wide committees
		- Written: GSC can charge committees to do things
		- (1) Diversity 🡪 some bias training
			* We should approve, they should continue to explore implementing it/speak with Kurt
			* Kurt 🡪 read the report, found no problem
			* Peter 🡪 not mandating faculty or human resources, just recommending?
				+ Correct, consistent with some things we must do anyway
			* John 🡪 written as recommendation to Kurt, should it go to governing bodies?
				+ Report was made at UFS
				+ Document not introduced until recently
				+ Requiring endorsement?

Kurt 🡪 will be discussed with HR

Staff should also have access

* + - No further GSC action needed
	+ Mike on university wide Work Life Committee (campus climate and culture)
		- Must be populated with humans
		- Last year, faculty senate and staff senate survey
			* Morale, burnout
		- Can faculty senate follow up on this? Should GSC follow up on this?
			* Peter 🡪 need for student report?
				+ SGA should do what it wants

Kris 🡪 consultation

* + - * + Law school did a survey recently, no results yet
			* Ade 🡪 does this include student workers as “staff”
				+ Mike 🡪 likely did not, sent through PeopleSoft
				+ Based on Plan of Organization, SBA and SGA should be included
		- Action items:
			* Follow up with student workers
			* Follow recommendations in report
		- Kris 🡪 moves that we populate committee
			* John 🡪 seconded, but committees killed?
			* Mike 🡪 not this one
		- Plan of Organization names this committee
			* GSC does not have ability to create or destroy committees
			* We can propose change but must be agreed upon by 3 of 4 governance bodies
	+ Kate 🡪 we must operate with these documents in place
		- Can’t ignore what they currently say
			* We hope to clarify and amend in real-time
		- John 🡪 shouldn’t give committees too much work if we want to do away with them
			* Ad-hoc committee should discuss
				+ If GSC is responsible for populating this committee, what do we propose in the short term while we consider the long term?
* New Business