**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