

University Staff Senate  
December 14, 2015  
12:15 - 1:30 PM

Meeting called to order 12:19 PM

Approval of Agenda - 12:19 PM

Approval of Minutes - 12:19 PM

### ***President's Update -***

Officer Porter Trial to go to Jury today, expecting verdict tomorrow or Wednesday. Hopeful for peaceful constructive response from UB community. Buildings should remain open for safe haven.

### **Provost Search**

Darlene Smith selected as Provost for UB.

Will begin 1/20/16

Looking forward to working with Darlene Smith, has great reorganization ideas

Joe Wood will be on sabbatical, but will be staying around to work on "interesting projects".

### **Coalition Lawsuit**

Has been active since 2006, Coalition for Historically Black Universities sued MHEC, alleging constitutional violations, which the court agreed on one, duplication of programs. Court ordered State and HBIs into mediation, which failed. Plaintiffs submitted petition for remedies. This included a merger of UB into Morgan State. State has responded to the petition, disagreeing on all recommendations. Judge Blake has the responses for review. Both sides have committed to appeals.

### **UB/Towson MBA Program**

The impression based on the press is, we ended the program as a response to the law suit. This is incorrect. The MOU expired 10/1/15. We looked at this program and concluded that, from an administrative POV, the program was not working as according to the plan. It's more beneficial to UB to operate its own MBA program, and allow the UB/Towson program to end, and teach-out existing students. Unintended benefit, Judge Blake originally cited the UB/Towson program as a duplication (she was quite annoyed with this), and it is no longer in existence.

Unclear when the judge will rule on the case.

### ***Chair's Update -***

Board of Regents Award. Senator's, please visit constituents in person to discuss this among other things.

The Facebook page, is it effective?

### *Executive Board Update*

Discussed Action Plan, Bi-Laws - not reporting out on until the committees report  
Assessment Map our action plan goals to match the UB goals. Also, a survey to come out in February to answer the "are we being effective" question.

*Email List, Keiver* - Thought we were closer than we are, but will continue to update.

Rod: Have you been working with anyone in OTS?

Keiver: Will talk to Rod offline

### **GSC Report**

Culture and diversity committee update from Karen  
Campus wide climate survey potentially on the horizon.  
All meetings set for 2016, will be posted online shortly.  
Coalition of Color Discussion, forum to take place (get info from Bill S.)

\*Temporary Appointment to Keiver as Megan's proxy for as long as she cannot attend.

Hand out, Draft of Resolution to allow UBSS to create its own standing committees.  
Do all members of the senate need to approve, or all members of the constituency?  
All members of the constituency is the answer.  
Vote on Resolution to Amend By-Laws, Motioned by Rod, Seconded by James.  
**Terry Ross**, can we manage this through PeopleSoft? Michael to find out.

### ***University Committee Reports***

#### **Board of Regents Awards**

Accepting Nominees for BOR Awards. Would like packets before break. Heard there should be about 10 nominations. Not very good representation across the four different categories of the awards. We can only push 1 exempt and 1 non-exempt per category. Please consider all of the categories when submitting nominations.

**Senators** - Please continue to talk to your constituents about the BOR Awards. Please have nominations packets in by before the break.

#### **Accreditation Process**

Committee met last Friday. Appears we're on target for research questions due date (late-Dec/January). Pilot moving forward on non-academic offices (see November minutes for list of pilot departments). Working on assessing shared governance structures. Will be asking Senators for documentation to aid in assessment. This is not directly tied to the self-study, however it's something that needs to be done. We're doing it before we're told to be doing it.

**Question from Barb:** When are they releasing the report on research questions outside of the workgroup?

Response: There's a process, research questions answers are submitted to steering committee, who then drafts "chapters". Final draft released for comments expected early Fall 2016.

#### **Diversity and Culture Committee:**

Working on Action Plan

Interested in performing a Climate Survey across the campus. How do make sure all of our campus voices are heard and addressed?

Would like to, ideally, do something in-house vs. buying a pre-packaged survey.

Looking at implementing bias-incident updates procedures, who should someone talk to if they feel they've been the victim of a bias incident?

What are other schools, who are successful with Diversity and Inclusion doing?

Syllabus insert regarding Diversity and Inclusion

Gender Neutral Restrooms, not well advertised or placed throughout campus, but they do exist.

### ***By-Laws Work-Group Update***

Any updates? When do we see the work being completed?

Needs to regroup with the team, ideally have something to report on in January.

### ***New Business?***

Start requesting information from Budget Committee, getting updates for next meeting? J. Brenner to follow-up, what information do we want, and how best do we get it?

### ***Open Floor***

#### ***Work-life committee met last Tuesday.***

Checking links on website, and issues please report to committee.

Needs a faculty rep, and 2 students for committee.

Working with facilities to support their child care and open space initiatives.

\*\*\*Facilities daily digest reminder to log off computers and power down monitors, printers and else over the break and save energy. There are some buildings will be set to unoccupied and will be cooler than usual.

**Meeting Adjourned 1:07 PM.**