

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes December 11, 2018

Senators in attendance included: Thomas Robinson, Tamara Bhalla, Timothy Phin, Kevin Omland, Mariajose Castellanos, Joel Liebman, Curtis Menyuk, Doug Hamby, Lisa Dickson, Diane Flint, Tanya Olson, Matthew Fagan, Susan McDonough, Amy Everhart, Joanna Gadsby, Christine Mallinson, Jacob Kogan, Hal Schreier, Liang Zhu, Liz Patton, Renee Lambert-Bretiere, Jessica Pfeifer, Pengwang Zhai, Felipe Filomeno, Diane Alonso, Adrienne Ekas-Mueting, Loren Henderson, Eve Muson, Kathy O'Dell. President Gunes Koru was also in attendance.

I. Call to Order

President Koru called the meeting to order.

Charles Nicholas, the Chair of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee served as timekeeper for the meeting. He will announce when time limits have been reached and will take note should there be queries regarding our process and procedures.

There were a few changes to the agenda. Richard Sponaugle, Lecturer in Information Systems and Chair of the General Education Committee will introduce a new proposal. This will be an information item that will be voted on at the February 12th Faculty Senate.

In addition, President Koru heard from the colleagues and senators from the College of Engineering and Information Technology. They are requesting more time to deliberate about the vote on the name change. This item will be postponed until the February 12th Faculty Senate as well.

II. Report of the President

President Hrabowski stated that the commencement speakers have been finalized. They will be:

For the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences: Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Musical Director, Andris Nelsons

For Science and Engineering: Director of the National Institute for Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Nora D. Volkow

For the Graduate School: Currently running for Baltimore County Executive and alumni on UMBC, Johnny Olszewski

Second, President Hrabowski reminded the senators of the mandatory Sexual Misconduct Training that is currently being rolled out across campus.

Sarah Shin, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, is leading the training which will be provided to all faculty and staff.

There was a 96% participation at the first training session.

President Hrabowski also thanked Christine Mallinson and Susan McDonough for all of their efforts in planning and assisting in the facilitation of these training sessions.

President Hrabowski urged everyone to do the online piece of the training now. One must achieve 87% to pass the online piece of the training.

The President of Saint Agnes Hospital has spoken to President Hrabowski in order to work together to be more supportive of our students in these cases. Every weekend there are at least a couple of students that are taken to Saint Agnes because of alcohol abuse.

The final topic discussed was the Maryland Giving Campaign. President Hrabowski noted that everyone is facing challenges and he encouraged everyone to donate if they are able.

III. Report of the Provost

Provost Rous began his report with the final enrollment numbers.

The enrollment numbers based on the Day 10 figures are:

Undergraduate Enrollment – essentially flat from last year with a .2% increase.
We had admitted 20 more students in the fall than from the previous year.

Graduate Enrollment – increased by 3%. Admitted 108 more graduate students at the Masters and PhD level compared to the previous class.

Total Enrollment (graduate and undergraduate) is up by about 1% at 13,767 total.

Transfer students – remained about the same. In the fall, we admitted 1,168 transfer students compared to 1,161 in the previous year.

Our four year graduation rate for freshmen is now 44% compared to 42% last year and our six year graduation rate is now 68.2% as opposed to last years' 63.5%. This is a significant statistical shift. This is the largest increase that UMBC's had in our graduation rate in the last 20 years.

First year retention rate for transfer students is 81% which is 6% lower than last year.

Our retention affects our enrollment a great deal. Our first year retention rate for freshmen is 87.3% which is down by 1% (88.3% in the previous year). It is projected that our retention rates will increase over time.

Provost Rous introduced Sarah Shin, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs. Dr. Shin is heading up the training for the Sexual Misconduct prevention initiative on campus.

The first training session was held on December 6th and it held a 96% participation rate. There are 2,500 people that need to be trained in January. The next trainings are scheduled for January 16, 17, 22, 23 and they are offering a total of 13 different sessions including one evening session on January 23rd. Right now there is a 43% registration rate for the January session and Dr. Shin encouraged the senators to attend the training sessions. She is very pleased with the participation so far and noted her appreciation to the senators for their attention to this very important initiative.

Dr. Shin noted Kevin Joseph as a contact for scheduling. He can be reached at kjoseph@umbc.edu. He is maintaining the database and is able to move people from one session to another.

For people at our Shady Grove campus, they are offering a live webinar that will be scheduled on January 16th (9:00am) as well as January 22nd (evening session). Similar arrangements will be made for the research centers off campus.

The presenters consist of two attorneys, (Leslie Gomez and Gina Smith), who have decades of experience in institutional response to sexual misconduct. These two women were here in September for a Title IX training and the response from the campus community was very positive so they were asked to come back to participate in the training sessions. In addition to these two participants, Bobbi Hoyer, Title IX Coordinator, and Jess Meyers, Director of the Women's Center, will assist in the training.

Reminders of the trainings will be sent out electronically to those who have been invited and who have signed up for the sessions with details and to those who have not yet signed up. Dr. Shin urged the senators to remind their departments to pay attention to these reminders and respond to them if applicable.

Adjunct faculty will also be included in the trainings as they are also responsible faculty. A list of the current Adjunct faculty members is being compiled and discussions are happening about Adjunct members getting paid for their training and their parking being covered for the training. More details will follow on this.

IV. Approval of the November 13, 2018 Faculty Senate Minutes

The Faculty Senate minutes for November 13, 2018 were approved as submitted.

V. Report of the Faculty Senate President

President Koru addressed the senators with the report of the Faculty Senate President.

President Koru thanked the senators for serving in the Faculty Senate and the Executive Committee members and past Faculty Senate presidents for always being there when he needed guidance.

This semester the Senate made important decisions and became an exemplary model of shared governance. They provided their views on how to prevent and handle sexual assault on campus and the administration took active participation in responding to their suggestions.

The implementation team that was formed is now taking concrete steps toward advising to ensure that we as faculty grow in terms as how we address sexual assault issues as a community. The Faculty Senate Advisory Group (FSAG) is meeting regularly and is making progress on campus as well.

This semester, our discussions around the compliance with SB-740 took a considerable amount of attention as well. These conversations showed us the value of being able to receive input from all stakeholders of the UMBC community. Shared governance is healthy and working on our campus.

The University Steering Committee (USC) is searching for a representative for the committee which will form recommendations about how to proceed with the Human Relations Committee. President Koru asked the senators to let him know if there is someone that is interested. The issues around human relations involving faculty members can be quite complex, so it is desired that the UMBC faculty is represented in this committee which will report to the USC.

President Koru noted that the position of Faculty Senate Vice President is still vacant. If anyone is interested, President Koru asked the faculty to advise him of the potential candidate or if anyone has any questions about the position.

President Koru reminded the senate that there is resource on campus called the Behavioral Risk Assessment and Consultation Team (BRACT) that assists faculty, staff, and students with addressing situations with people displaying disruptive or threatening behavior. On their website helpful information can be found as well as contact information. You can access their page at <https://studentaffairs.umbc.edu/for-faculty-staff/committees/bract/>.

The report of the Faculty Senate President was accepted.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee

Serving as Chair of the Executive Committee, President Koru provided the Executive Committee report. The committee formally met on November 19th and the agenda included:

- Based on a recent proposal for forming an ad hoc Faculty Senate committee, the Executive Committee discussed how the interested senators can best contribute to the Sexual Assault Prevention and Handling on campus, by perhaps studying additional questions and looking at issues from different perspectives. The committee advised that the best structure to house such an initiative was the Faculty Senate Advisory Group (FSAG), which, in turn, started communication between the interested senators and the leaders of the advisory group.
- The adjunct faculty group contacted the University Steering Committee and requested to be represented under the USC. The USC told them to work with the Faculty Senate. Based on this development, the Executive Committee had some discussions about how this representation can be structured. This discussion was not conclusive and it will continue in the next meeting and throughout the next semester. If anyone has any thoughts or issues, President Koru urged them to reach out to him or another member of the Executive Committee on this matter.
- The committee discussed the feedback collected about the removal of the Physical Education Requirement. This item will be an item that will be voted on in this meeting.
- Finally, the committee discussed a statement called Joint Statement of Solidarity on the Protection of Academic Freedom, Shared Governance, and Tenure proposed by some of the faculty leaders in the Baltimore-Washington area including those at George Mason University and The Catholic University of America.

The Executive Committee will hold its last meeting on Tuesday, December 18th. If anyone has any questions, comments or a request for discussion, President Koru asks that faculty contact him.

The report of the Executive Committee was approved by the Faculty Senate.

B. Undergraduate Council

Terry Worchesky serving as chair for the Undergraduate Council provided the report of the Undergraduate Council.

Dr. Worchesky requested the senators to remind their departments of the deadlines for the catalog submissions. They must remain strict deadlines so that the Registrars' Office has time to

make the changes. The deadlines are outlined on the Undergraduate Council's website: <https://ugc.umbc.edu/>.

An electronic copy of all of the approved courses and programs was distributed to the senators prior to the meeting.

The report of the Undergraduate Council was approved by the Faculty Senate.

C. Academic Planning and Budget Committee

Charles Nicholas, Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering and Chair of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee, provided an update from the Academic Planning and Budget Committee.

The Academic Planning and Budget Committee last met on December 6th and reviewed a number of initiatives.

The Academic Program Review for Dance, Upper Division Certificate in Social Dimensions of Health, Lower Division Certificate in Allied Health Preparatory Studies and the Academic Program Proposal to Offer Existing Program at the Universities of Shady Grove were reviewed and approved by the committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2019.

The report of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee was approved by the Faculty Senate.

D. Faculty Affairs Committee

Don Snyder, Senior Lecturer or Media and Communications Studies and Chair for Faculty Affairs Committee, provided an update from the Faculty Affairs Committee.

The Faculty Affairs Committee met earlier in December. Information about the Carnegie Classification was distributed to the senators electronically prior to the meeting. This information talked about a community engaged scholarship and how the Faculty Affairs Committee might look at the P&T language and how this associates to the scholarship. If there are any questions about this scholarship, Dr. Snyder asked to be contacted.

The report of the Faculty Affairs Committee was approved by the Faculty Senate.

E. Academic Conduct Committee

Suzanne Braunschweig, Chair of the Academic Conduct Committee shared a report from their most recent meeting.

The report explains the types of misconduct, penalties of the misconduct and it breaks down the department totals and the comparisons from the prior years for the senators.

This committee is made up of faculty members and students and is seeking administrative support. Dean Katherine Cole is currently working with Vice Provost Patrice McDermott to finalize this support.

In response to a senators' question: Dr. Braunschweig stated that when a faculty member submits a report to the database, it automatically generates an email from the faculty member to the student letting them know that a report has been submitted. No other information is recorded in that message. The committee chair then generates a letter out to the student advising them of the next steps that the student needs to follow in the process. All appropriate steps are taken to maintain confidentiality for the student as well as the faculty member.

The report contains the appropriate sanctions. The faculty member chooses what he/she feels is the appropriate penalty.

Any questions can be directed to: aaccchair@umbc.edu.

The report of the Academic Conduct Committee was approved by the Faculty Senate.

VII. Other Reports

A. General Education Committee

Richard Sponaule, Chair of the General Education committee brought to the senate a proposal to remove a clause from the UMBC Catalog.

This clause states: "Credit awarded through a UMBC Administered Departmental Exam is not applicable toward the General Education Requirements..."

The justification for this proposal change comes from conferring with the Division of Undergraduate of Academic Affairs which stated that this policy is not correct. If it shows that a student received credit for a class, it is felt that this clause should be removed for consistency.

Dr. Worchesky added that it is written in the catalog that for a \$20.00 administration fee, in any course, a student can pass a class via an exam. Any student can request it and the department can either accept the request or deny it.

This proposal will be voted on at the February 12th Faculty Senate meeting.

B. Progress Report from FSAG (C. Mallinson and S. McDonough)

Susan McDonough, Associate Professor in History and Christine Mallinson, Professor in Language, Literacy and Culture provided a report from the Faculty Senate

Dr. Mallinson stated that the committee is showing to be a very robust group with 44 individuals. Subcommittees will be broken out and the next meeting will be this coming Thursday.

General Counsel will be attending the next meeting and will be briefing the group on the proposed changes with the Title IX regulations. After that, the subcommittees will be broken out into internal and external groups. If there are additional faculty senators that would like to participate, Dr. Mallinson urged them to reach out to either Susan McDonough or herself to find out how they can get involved.

C. Deans response to Quantitative Teaching Measures Implementation

Dean Casper, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, noted that departments were asked to provide documentation on quantitative teaching measures implementation. They are hoping to have feedback back to the department in early January of 2019.

Dean Bowman, College of Engineering and Information Technology, noted that each of the departments in their college have been asked to provide updates and each of them are in different places in their discussions. They have been asked to provide feedback to Administration at the beginning of the semester.

Dean LaCourse, College of Natural and Mathematical Sciences, noted that the departments have been submitted and are under review in consultation with the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. Revisions have been requested and negotiations have been made. Progress has been constant. It is expected that everything will be in place in the spring semester.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. PE Requirement Proposal

Dr. Worchesky stated that degree requirements change from time to time so there is no legal issue with this. It was however, discovered that once the PE Requirement is dropped, it cannot be used in the credit count toward Financial Aid Status. There are students that use the Phys Ed credits for this purpose and the result is that with any change in degree requirement changes, the students will continue to use the requirements that they entered the program on.

Students will be able to “Opt in” or “Opt out” at this time as well.

If this policy passes, it was requested that communications go out to advisors to remind them that students have this choice.

A targeted email will go out to students who are receiving Financial Aid where the PE classes are getting them to the full time status and to students who appear to be using it to get to the Financial Aid eligibility.

Vice Provost and Dean Cole and Dr. Worchesky were recognized for their efforts in addressing this issue.

It was felt by some of the senators that there was a break in the line of communication between the Phys Ed department and the Provost responded to this issue.

Provost Rous stated that this was a point of discussion with Tim Hall, Director of Athletics. The arrangement that was made that if the PE Requirement was eliminated, we would continue for a period of time to send to the Department of Athletics the same revenue that would have been previously generated through summer and winter programs. There is an agreement in place that Athletics staff along with faculty will develop a Health and Wellness program that will be considered for credit or could be done on a fee basis.

It was also communicated that the Womens Self Defense courses will be maintained and will continue.

Provost Rous recognized administration and the team that worked on this transition and noted the importance of shared governance in this process.

By majority vote, this proposal for the change in the PE Requirements was accepted by the Faculty Senate.

B. Faculty Handbook language amendment

By unanimous vote the Faculty Handbook language amendment was approved by the Faculty Senate.

C. Public Policy Academic Program Review

By unanimous vote the Public Policy Academic Program Review was approved by the Faculty Senate.

D. Language, Literacy, and Culture Year Three Review

By unanimous vote the Language, Literacy, and Culture Year Three Review was approved by the Faculty Senate.

There was no New Business and the meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.

Respectfully submitted by Rose Drohan