

Salisbury University
Consortium Coordinating Committee meeting
April 10, 2024, 2 p.m.
President's Conference Room

Minutes

Present: Deneen Long-White, Chair (President, Faculty Senate); Joe Benyish (Chair, Staff Senate); Nick Plummer (President, Graduate Student Council); Eli Modlin (Chief of Staff and Vice President of Public Affairs and Strategic Initiatives, President's Office); Eric Stewart (Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications, President's Office); Vanice Antrum (Director, Multicultural Affairs); Eric Berkheimer (Associate Vice President of Facilities & Capital Management); Tina Boyd (Interim Associate Vice President, Human Resources); Chief Ed Lashley (SUPD); and Gina Boobar (President's Office)

Absent: Tim Robinson (President, Adjunct Faculty Caucus); Wyatt Parks (President, SGA)

Consortium Committees

- Deneen explained that the Consortium Coordinating Committee have had lengthy discussions regarding restructuring the Consortium committees. Two different proposed bylaw revisions were submitted to all the shared governance groups, but Faculty Senate and Adjunct Faculty Caucus voted against both proposals. Now, they are working on getting the committees reactivated and figuring out the best way for the committees to be a support around shared governance and how they can be relevant. They have invited the committee conveners to today's meeting to get some feedback.
- Joe added that their hope is to kick off the upcoming academic year with full committees, all vacancies filled. They would like to consider how the committees can be used effectively and beneficially, in a way that still fits into the current bylaws. Then they can go back to their shared governance constituents to let them know how the committees are going to work in order to encourage interest in individuals joining the committees. They want these committees to be a meaningful experience for the volunteers.
- The group agreed that there needs to be accountability for the committees; they need to establish how often the committees should meet each semester; and the meeting reports need to be submitted and then posted on the Campus Governance website.
- Chief Lashley, convener of the Traffic, Safety, Buildings and Grounds Committee, observed that most of what is discussed are items that have already been decided, and the meetings often turn into a complaint session. He feels the meetings should be a forum to make positive recommendations. He is a member of numerous non-consortium committees where there are discussions about the same things, but in many respects the other committees have been more constructive than the consortium committees (i.e., Student Affairs' Safety Task Force). How can the committee be reignited in order to get value from it?
- Eric Berkheimer, convener of the Facilities Management Advisory Committee, said that for some committees, you need to have the technical knowledge in order to run the meetings, which makes it difficult for a student, faculty or staff member (who does not have the appropriate background and experience) to chair the committee.
- Vanice Antrum, convener of the Cultural Diversity and Inclusion Committee (CDICC), said they are struggling to get faculty to participate since each of the schools have their own diversity committees. The CDICC is also duplicating efforts with the IAB work group.

Governance Body Reports

Report from Faculty Senate – Deneen Long-White

- There are two meetings remaining. The senate will be voting on incoming officers at the final meeting.
- SU will be hosting the USM Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) meeting on April 25th.

Report from Staff Senate – Joe Benyish

- The next Staff Senate meeting is tomorrow.
- They are working on Employee Appreciation Day, scheduled for June 11th.
- SU will be hosting the USM Council of University System Staff (CUSS) meeting on June 18th.

Report from Adjunct Faculty Caucus – None

Report from Student Government Association (SGA) – None

Report from Graduate Student Council (GSC) – Nick Plummer

- “Grad Night in the Box” at Sea Gull Stadium is tonight at the men’s lacrosse game.
- The Grad Spring Social will be a cookout held on May 8th, 5-7 p.m.

Updates from the President’s Office – Eli Modlin

- The State budget outlook for next year is not good; although it is unknown what the full impact of the Key Bridge collapse will be, it will not impact any current capital projects. The additional \$19.2 million for the Blackwell Hall renovation has been approved by the Governor. Some institutions are talking about layoffs and furloughs, but SU is not one of them. We are not hiring any positions that we know we cannot retain. Also, SU’s enrollment is rebounding.
- SU needs to be more active on the western shore. The University is looking at more engagement with elected officials and members of the Board of Regents, as well as looking at office space to lease in Annapolis.

Old Business

Joint Session

- The Joint Session of Shared Governance is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24th, 3:30-5:00 p.m., in the Perdue Hall Auditorium.
- The agenda includes greetings from President Lepre, updates from Shared Governance, and a Consortium Committee update.
- They plan to hold a Joint Session at the beginning and the end of each academic year.

New Business – None

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Recorder: Gina Boobar