

**Salisbury University**  
**Consortium Coordinating Committee meeting**  
**September 9, 2024, 3:30 p.m.**  
**President's Conference Room**

## Minutes

**Present:** Joe Benyish, Chair (Chair, Staff Senate); Joerg Tuske (President, Faculty Senate); Tim Robinson (President, Adjunct Faculty Caucus); Abigail Isaacson (President, Graduate Student Council); Olivia Ingrao (President, SGA); Eli Modlin (Chief of Staff and Vice President of Public Affairs and Strategic Initiatives, President's Office); President Carolyn Lepre; and Gina Boobar (President's Office)

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 13, 2024 and April 10, 2024 meetings were approved.

### Updates from the President's Office – President Lepre and Eli Modlin

President Lepre said she will listen and answer any questions the shared governance leaders have; she is here to support the committee and to understand all the issues going on with each shared governance body.

- **Parking**
  - Parking is an issue this semester due to the Blackwell lot being closed during construction. This lot closure removed 207 employee and visitor parking spaces; however, that lot was underutilized. Therefore, parking issues were not anticipated. There are also many employees now working remotely. There is more pressure on the employee side since we have lost an employee-only parking lot.
  - Main campus parking traditionally has been difficult during the first two weeks of class. We expect that to taper off soon, now that new students are learning where they can and cannot legally park.
  - Administration and parking services are working on many different solutions including: opening up underutilized lots such as Court Plaza and Temple Hill and using a shuttle; repurposing some current spaces in many of the lots for different usage/permit; having fewer reserved spaces for service vehicles.
  - An email will be sent out soon to everyone outlining the parking updates. This issue will also be brought up during the State of the University.
  - Joe suggested better and more consistent signage in all lots. Also, it's unlikely that anyone will park in Court Plaza or Temple Hill and shuttle to main campus.
  - Olivia suggested better parking enforcement first thing in the morning.
  - Tim said that regarding the small parking lot in front of Perdue Hall, adjuncts would like it to be later than 4:45 p.m. Currently, students park there but adjuncts would like to park there.
- **Workday**
  - The University realized a few weeks ago that there were major issues with contracts, stipends and benefits. We are close to having the issues taken care of. Pay and benefits are the University's number one priority to resolve.
  - Joe reminded everyone that when you call a department with a Workday issue, the people on the other end of the phone are SU staff members.
  - Tim noted that Jessica Clark and Lynn Adkins have been extremely helpful with adjunct faculty contract issues.
  - Joe suggested that a list be created with the difference in PeopleSoft and Workday terms.

- Strategic Planning
  - The President explained that the creation of the next Strategic Plan will be a campus-wide process, with a full year to build a new five-year plan. There will be two chairs for the 15- or 16-member steering committee. She hopes that shared governance will be actively involved. She asked that everyone encourage your governance body members to attend the forums and join a working group. There will be a variety of opportunities to become involved. This Strategic Plan will be the first chapter of the next 100 years of Salisbury University.
- Budget and Enrollment
  - Enrollment looks like it will be a little higher than flat; the University is a little ahead on full-time enrolled students.
  - Retention dropped slightly; Academic Affairs is working on determining the exact reason(s) for the drop in retention.
  - We are budgeting conservatively. The biggest piece of the puzzle is COLA/merit increase funds; the University is waiting to make sure that money is actually given to us by the Department of Budget Management. A pause has been implemented on hiring for now just in case the University does not receive all the money for the COLA/merit increases.
- Commencement
  - This December will be our last December commencement ceremony. Moving forward, December graduates will participate in May's ceremony.
  - In May, the undergraduate ceremony will be held at the stadium, rain or shine. There will be one ceremony in the morning for all undergraduates.
  - We will order ponchos/umbrellas/hydrating fans.
  - Funding is available through the stadium account to enhance the facility (bleachers, chairs, sound system, etc.).
  - For graduate students, it will need to be decided if we will hold one ceremony the evening before or hold ceremonies by school/college.
  - SU's 100th graduating class is in 2025. We will have a commemorative pin and a prominent speaker will be invited.
  - The number of guest tickets should be very close to what students received in the past, and there will be livestream-watch parties so more guests are able to attend.
  - Names will be pre-recorded to reduce time from eight seconds per graduate to four seconds.

## **Old Business**

### **Bylaw Revisions / Consortium Committees**

- Joe suggested that Joerg find out from Faculty Senate what they would be in favor of regarding changing the Consortium committees. Joe would like to make this a goal for the year – to approve revisions to the Consortium Bylaws regarding the Consortium committees.

### **Joint Session**

- Joe will look for a date to propose for this semester's Joint Session.

### **Governance Body Reports**

#### **Report from Faculty Senate – Joerg Tuske**

- Tomorrow is the first meeting of this academic year.

- On the agenda is a report from the Academic Policies Committee regarding the Religious Accommodation Policy. Also, the Ad Hoc Committee Report on student evaluations and how they relate to tenure and promotion.
- The Summer Advisory Committee will also report. This year, they had a charge to gather data for compensation; however, it is not complete yet so it will be an ongoing project.

## **Report from Staff Senate – Joe Benyish**

- They are working on a Staff Senate Outreach Plan.
- They intend to continue to do Staff Town Halls.
- They are working on coming up with more employee recognition ideas. They are also working with HR and Aurora to make some changes to the Employee of the Month program.

## **Report from Adjunct Faculty Caucus – Tim Robinson**

- The primary goal they would like to get accomplished this year is a plan to properly recognize adjunct faculty.

## **Report from Student Government Association (SGA) – Olivia Ingraio**

- One of the primary focuses is tailgating; they are working to keep attendance up at athletic events.
- They are working on The Big Event. This event, scheduled every fall, is mostly doing raking in the neighborhoods. They are looking at changing it up this year.
- They are working with the student organizations to help them recognize that SGA is there for them and working for them.

## **Report from Graduate Student Council (GSC) – Abigail Isaacson**

- They are working on filling the position of outreach and social events coordinator.
- They had poor attendance at yesterday's assembly so they are working on graduate student engagement.

**Meeting adjourned** at 4:55 p.m.

Recorder: Gina Boobar