

University Senate

April 7, 2016

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 93

Call to Order

Senate Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

Special Order: Presidential Briefing

President Loh reported that he had recently come from a press conference to unveil the final report on the Lincoln Project, which studied land grant and public research universities. He noted that part of this project discussed the funding model for these universities and how that model has shifted. The final report explains what public universities should do with decreasing state funding.

President Loh noted that the State Legislature had completed its operating and capital budgets. This year's budget has a \$400 million surplus after last year's significant deficit. There will be a smaller increase in tuition this year for students and a 2.5% merit increase for faculty and staff. He added that all of the University's capital projects were funded this year.

President Loh noted that Governor Hogan allowed SB1052, the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership Act of 2016 to become law although he did not sign it. Governor Hogan supports the partnership, but the addition of money for other University System of Maryland institutions is not consistent with his goal of fiscal responsibility. President Loh noted that this bill codifies the current relationship through MPower into law. This bill also includes \$6 million for research funding.

Chair Brown thanked President Loh for his remarks and reminded Senators that they would receive a link following the meeting to provide feedback on the briefing.

Approval of the March 9, 2016, Senate Minutes (Action)

Chair Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 9, 2016, meeting; hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Committee Volunteer Period

Chair Brown explained that the volunteer period for Senate standing committees had recently opened. He encouraged senators to reach out to the campus community about participating in shared governance and encourage volunteers to serve on a committee by going to the Senate website: www.senate.umd.edu. He especially encouraged faculty to volunteer and engage their

colleagues as well. The deadline to volunteer is April 30, 2016.

Remaining Senate Meetings

Chair Brown reminded Senators that there are now three more Senate meetings this academic year. The next meeting would be held on April 20th and an extra meeting has been added to the schedule on April 28th. This will now be the last business meeting of the semester for any outgoing Senators. He noted that the Senate would have several time-sensitive issues presented at this meeting and expressed importance of a quorum to conduct business. He stated that he hoped that many of the senators would be able to attend this important meeting.

The May 5th Transition Senate Meeting will be for all continuing and incoming senators. On May 5th, the Senate will elect its next Chair-Elect, Jordan Goodman will take over as Chair, and the Senate will then vote for the elected committees of the Senate. The names of candidates running for the various committees and their candidacy statements will be distributed on April 21st.

Update to the Strategic Plan for the University of Maryland (Senate Doc. No. 15-16-26) **(Action)**

Chair Brown reminded Senators that Provost Rankin made a preliminary presentation to the Senate at the September 10th meeting. He also noted that the draft Plan was discussed at the February 11th meeting and a campus-wide forum was held on February 18th. Chair Brown welcomed Provost Rankin to give a brief presentation of the finalized Strategic Plan Update.

Provost Rankin provided background on the Strategic Plan Update and noted the areas that had been changed since the last presentation.

Provost Rankin reported that the timeframe for this update had been extended until 2022 and that many parts of the 2008 Plan are still true so there is no need to update those parts. She also added that many of the 2008 goals have been completed. Since the 2008 Plan, President Loh has become president, UMD has entered the Big Ten Conference, and the College Park community has seen significant improvement. Improving the budget process; equity, diversity, and inclusion; and continued research funding are major goals of the Strategic Plan Update.

Provost Rankin stated a commitment to undergraduate education with new approaches to teaching including experiential and project learning have been great successes that will continue. In graduate education, graduate fellowship funding is still needed, which will be a major focus of the next capital campaign. In research and scholarship, UMD will create an environment for world-class research and innovation. UMD will also work to continue to improve the quality of life in College Park. The MPower partnership will continue to expand and provide world-class research. New fundraising initiatives, capital projects, and arts and humanities education will all contribute to improving UMD's campus and the community.

Provost Rankin noted that UMD's involvement in the Big Ten Conference and the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) have raised the national profile of UMD. The

University has also implemented several administrative modernization processes to streamline operations. Provost Rankin provided a summary of costs and new faculty and staff that would be needed to implement the Strategic Plan Update.

Chair Brown thanked Provost Rankin for her remarks and recognized Chair-Elect Goodman.

Chair-Elect Goodman made a procedure motion on behalf of the Senate Executive Committee as follows:

Each speaker will be given two minutes to discuss the Strategic Plan Update and any amendments thereto. A speaker may only speak a second time once everyone else has had an opportunity to speak.

The motion to limit the time of each speaker was seconded.

Chair Brown opened the floor for discussion of the motion; hearing none, he called for a vote on the motion. He noted that the motion required a 2/3 vote in favor to pass. The result was in 80 favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to limit the time of each speaker passed.** Brown noted that a timer would be displayed on the screen for each speaker.

Chair Brown noted that the Senate Office had put out a request for amendments in advance of the Senate meeting. He stated that voting senators could make and second amendments on the floor but previously submitted amendments would be considered first. Brown also stated that the discussion and amendments would be discussed in order of the following ten categories: Education, Research and Scholarship, Strategic Partnership with UMB (MPower), Arts & Humanities, Athletics, Greater College Park, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Modernizing Administrative Procedures, Implementation, and Other.

Brown stated that the Senate would start with the introduction section of the Strategic Plan Update. He recognized Jordan Goodman, Chair-Elect to present an amendment on behalf of the SEC.

Chair-Elect Goodman made a motion to amend page 1, between paragraphs 3 and 4. He noted that the previously submitted motion had since been amended as follows in **blue bold**:

We also reiterate the core values of the University as stated in the 2008 plan – excellence in every part of the institution and every member of the University; diversity and inclusiveness of students, faculty and staff; innovation and creativity in academic programs, research, and administrative functions; the highest ethical standards in all university actions; civility and collegiality in our determination to be a broad, welcoming, and diverse community; and a commitment to openness and accountability through shared governance – continue to underlie and be reflected in all University activities and throughout this update to the strategic plan.

The motion was seconded.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion of the amendment; hearing none, he called for a vote on the amendment. The vote was 80 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The amendment passed.**

Brown opened the floor to any additional discussion or amendments of the introduction section of the Plan; hearing none he opened the floor to discussion or amendments of the Education section of the Plan. There was no discussion.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion or amendments of the Research and Scholarship section of the Plan.

Brown recognized Dean Ball to present his amendment.

Dean Ball, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences made a motion to amend page 9, paragraph 6 as follows:

Similar infrastructure needs exist in many other areas of the University, and will require aggressive capital improvement investments. For example, the ~~geographical sciences need~~ **Department of Geographical Sciences in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences needs** on-campus space. The Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Information Studies, and the Schools of Public Policy, Public Health, and the Robert H. Smith School of Business all need more space. Language researchers and scholars need improved facilities. In addition, there is a very great need for additional improved physical science, chemistry, and biological research space.

The motion was seconded.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion of the amendment; hearing none, he called for a vote on the amendment. The result was 62 in favor, 13 opposed, and 5 abstentions. **The amendment passed.**

Chair Brown opened the floor to any additional discussion or amendments to the Research and Scholarship section of the Plan. There was no further discussion.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion of the Strategic Partnership with UMB (MPower) section of the Plan; hearing none, he opened the floor to discussion or amendments to the Arts & Humanities section of the Plan.

Chair Brown recognized Dean Thornton Dill to present her amendment.

Dean Thornton Dill, College of Arts and Humanities, made a motion to amend page 12, paragraph 4 as follows:

The Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH) — an internationally recognized leader in research and development in the field — **in collaboration with the College of Arts and Humanities and the Center for Synergy** recently received more than \$1 million from the Mellon Foundation to develop digital capacity in the field of African American literature and history.

The motion was seconded.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion of the amendment; hearing none, he called for a vote on the amendment. The result was 77 in favor, 4 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The amendment passed.**

Chair Brown opened the floor to any additional discussion or amendments of the Arts & Humanities section of the Plan; hearing none, he opened the floor to discussion or amendments to the Athletics section of the Plan. There was no discussion.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion or amendments of the Greater College Park section of the Plan.

Chair Brown recognized Senator Aparicio-Blackwell to present her amendment.

Senator Aparicio-Blackwell, exempt staff, made a motion to amend page 17, the first full bullet point, as follows:

Office of Community Engagement: In addition to enlisting university volunteers to work in College Park and neighboring communities, the office runs programs that bring university services to youth and challenged families. ~~The Center for Educational Partnership fosters academic enrichment, parenting support, adult education, recreational, and cultural programs to benefit nearby Riverdale Park. The Northwestern High School Partnership works at this neighboring public school to cut drop-out rates and prepare students for higher education success.~~ **The Office's mission is to build connections with schools, community associations, and non-profit organizations in the local community which, in turn, will facilitate partnerships with student groups, colleges and units on campus. In the end, our goal is to develop stronger and trusted community-based projects to make the greater university community a "Top 10 College Town."**

The motion was seconded.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion of the amendment.

Senator Simon, faculty, School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, noted that the new language was an improvement and asked if eliminating the names of the specific partnerships meant that the University was dropping those partnership or if it was just designed to create a more open-ended framework.

Senator Aparicio-Blackwell noted that the Office of Community Engagement is currently assessing the projects that were named and wanted to make it a more open framework.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote on the amendment. The result was 78 in favor, 4 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The amendment passed.**

Chair Brown opened the floor to any additional discussion or amendments to the Greater College Park section of the Plan; hearing none, he opened the floor to discussion or amendments to the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion section of the Plan.

Senator Stevenson, non-tenured research faculty, made a motion to amend the last sentence of the introductory paragraph on page 17 of the equity, diversity, and inclusion section as follows:

This is reflected in the rising success and diversity of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff; the focus and impact of our educational initiatives, **offices and staff dedicated to diversity programming**, research, scholarship, and creative activities; our community engagement and service; and efforts to maintain an inclusive campus climate.

The motion was seconded.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion of the amendment; hearing none, he called for a vote on the amendment. The result was 72 in favor, 5 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The amendment passed.**

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion or amendments to the Modernizing Administrative Procedures section of the Plan. There was no discussion.

Chair Brown opened the floor to discussion or amendments of the Implementation section of the Plan. There was no discussion.

Chair Brown opened the floor to any additional discussion or amendments to the Strategic Plan Update; hearing none, he called for a vote on the Plan as amended. The result was 74 in favor, 7 opposed, and 2 abstentions. **The proposal passed.**

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.