

University Senate

November 5, 2014

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 102

Call to Order

Senate Chair Webster called the meeting to order at 3:24 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Webster asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 9, 2014 meeting. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

BOR Staff Awards

The Staff Affairs Committee is currently accepting nominations for the prestigious Board of Regents' Staff Awards. Eight individuals within the University System of Maryland will be selected as award recipients, including one non-exempt and one exempt staff member for each of the four award categories. Recipients will receive a \$1,000 award and system-wide recognition. Nomination packages must be submitted to the Senate Office by Friday, December 12th. I encourage you to support your fellow staff colleagues and nominate a staff member for an award. Contact the Senate Office or visit the Senate website for more information. This is an excellent opportunity for our staff employees to be recognized for the amazing work that they do.

CIC Governance Conference

Past Chair Vincent Novara, Senate Director Reka Montfort and I attended the annual meeting of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation at Ohio State University in September. The two-day program included discussions on Best Practices for Faculty Leaders, Setting Academic Priorities, and Faculty Involvement in Searches. A panel covered the subject of Tackling College Affordability that included OSU initiatives as well as projects to privatize some current assets of the university. As one would expect with our Big Ten peers, a team of leaders discussed the Changing NCAA Landscape with a range of topics referencing current and future areas of concern in college athletics.

UMD Wins National Competition

University of Maryland Extension in the College of AGNR is home to our state's 4-H program. This program reaches almost 100,000 youths in a range of educational and leadership development programs. I am pleased to announce that our Maryland 4-H Engineering Team recently attended the 64th National

Engineering Challenge at Purdue University where our nine-member team won first place in the Aerospace, Robotics and Small Engines competition. These youths began working their way to the national competition at their local county level, progressing through statewide and then to national competition.

Special Order of the Day
Wallace D. Loh
President of the University of Maryland, College Park
2014 State of the Campus Address

Chair Webster welcomed President Loh to present his address. President Loh thanked Webster and the Senate for the opportunity to address them.

New Administrators

President Loh introduced Eric Denna, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, and the new Deans of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and the School of Public Policy, Gregory Ball and Robert Orr. He also noted that the University welcomed 90 new faculty and new staff such as the Director of the Health Center, David McBride, and the Title IX Officer, Catherine Carroll. In addition, he announced the retirement of Terry Roach, Dale Anderson, and Jim Sterling and thanked them for their service to the University. The President announced searches for Deans for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Information Studies, and Undergraduate Studies.

Overview of Accomplishments

President Loh stated that he would give a brief overview of the University's accomplishments over the last four years and his vision and agenda through 2020. He congratulated outgoing Governor O'Malley and noted his significant support of the University. He also congratulated Governor-Elect Hogan and noted that he looked forward to working with him.

Undergraduate Education

President Loh provided statistics regarding undergraduate education. He noted that the University had increased its recruitment of local high school students from 25% to 33%. The median SAT score of the incoming freshmen class is 1310, with a 4.2 GPA. He stated that 44% of the incoming class were from diverse racial backgrounds. President Loh noted that the May 2014 class achieved an 85% graduation rate and that 40% of those students had an average debt of \$25,000. Those students had a 2.8% default rate, while the national average is 13%. In addition, the placement rate is 75% at the time of graduation and increases to 80-85% within six months.

President Loh provided an overview of changes to the general education curriculum and noted that the living and learning communities had been expanded, including the new cyber security program funded by Northrop Grumman. He reported that the First-Year Innovation & Research Experience

(FIRE) program was off to a successful start and that programs for innovation and entrepreneurship now engage 6000 students and over 100 faculty.

Graduate Education

President Loh commented on the quality of graduate programs at the University and stated that of the 55 programs included in the rankings, 35 are in the top 25 nationally. He commented that the time to degree had narrowed from 6.3 to 5.6 years across all disciplines. In addition, the completion rate is 65%. He said that the metrics must be improved and that the University had invested in and grown professional masters programs by 31 additional programs in the last three years. There are also plans being made for professional doctoral degrees.

Research & Innovation

President Loh noted that in the era of potential sequestration, the University must partner or perish. He congratulated the humanities and the Classics Department for their recent award of \$500,000 in grant funding. He highlighted the work with MPower, which has created interdependence between the institutions. This collaboration has resulted in 71 joint appointments leading to over 200 proposal submissions with a 30% success rate and a total of \$79M in funding. In addition, innovation has led to an increase of 50-60% in patents and inventions and 19 new startups. He noted that the Senate included recognition of innovation in the recently passed appointment, promotion, and tenure (APT) process.

Capital Projects

President Loh noted that the University was engaged in \$800M in renovations and new construction. These include the Physical Sciences Complex (PSC), Pocomoke Building, Prince Frederick Hall (cyber security lab), Oakland Hall, Edward St. John Learning and Teaching Center (8 chemistry teaching labs), Tawes Hall, the Bioengineering Building, and the Iribe Computer Science and Innovation Center. In addition, he commented on the new Hotel (with three restaurants, a spa, coffee shop, approximately 300 rooms, and conference space for 8-10,000 people), and 12 innovation incubators. He also noted that there would be \$700M in development in College Park including the Landmark (Book Exchange and first-floor retail), Terrapin Row (replacing the old Knox Boxes with new faculty and staff condominiums and first floor retail), market-rate housing, and a grocery store. In addition, the University is exploring other partnerships in the Arts.

Athletics

President Loh commented on the University's move to the Big 10 conference. He stated that season ticket sales are at the highest ever, private fundraising for athletics is high, the teams are doing well, and the coaches are getting more interest from top recruits. He stated that the settlement with the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) allowed them to keep the \$31M that they withheld from NCAA funds. He stated that the amount of revenue from the Big 10 was negotiated and remains confidential, but that the media speculated that we are receiving \$100M

above what we would have had we stayed in the ACC. He noted that we have ensured the future of athletics for the next 50 years. In addition, the Big 10 TV contract will be approximately \$40M per school, while the ACC contract was only \$17M. President Loh stated that not all of that would be placed in Athletics but that some would be used for academic purposes.

Vision to 2020

President Loh stated that his vision for the University is to move it into the Top 10 public research universities. In addition, he has charged Provost Rankin with developing a plan to update the University's Strategic Plan by May 1, 2015.

Webster thanked President Loh for his presentation and noted willingness to take questions from the Senate floor.

Q & A

Senator Alexander, emeritus faculty, inquired about what the University is doing in coordination with Prince Georges (PG) County.

Loh responded that the University is working closely with the PG County Council. We opened a charter school with a hybrid education. We have also improved safety on Route 1. In addition, we have expanded the jurisdiction of the Code of Student Conduct beyond campus boundaries. We have also supported the construction of the Purple Line through campus and are working with developers in the College Park area. We are also working with our congressional delegation to bring the new Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) headquarters building to PG County, which will be a huge engine for economic development.

Senator Belcher, undergraduate student, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, introduced Ori Gutin. He inquired how the President foresees the affordability of higher education institutions?

Loh outlined the source of funding for the University including tuition revenue, appropriations, overhead from grants and contracts, interest from fund balances, and philanthropy. He noted that graduates borrowing \$25,000 should view their loans as an investment.

Senator Jacobson, exempt staff, inquired about the childcare center and other family friendly initiatives?

Loh responded that the University Center or the Calvert Street areas are options being considered for the childcare center. He stated that representatives from the University are having conversations with contractors to run the center.

Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Replacement Election **[Staff Senators Only] (Senate Doc. No. 14-15-08) (Action)**

Webster noted that two of the elected staff senate representatives on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) could no longer serve on the committee. He stated that the Senate would hold a special election to fill the

vacancies. He asked all staff senators to complete his/her ballot and stated that the results of the election would be announced via email following the meeting.

**Code of Academic Integrity Changes - Report (Senate Doc. No. 13-14-26)
(Action)**

Kasey Moyes, Chair of the Student Conduct Committee, presented the committee revisions to the Code of Academic Integrity and provided background information.

Webster opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 76 in favor, 0 opposed, and 5 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Senate Chair Webster adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.