



## Salisbury University – Staff Senate

Thursday, May 12, 2022

AC401 GAC Boardroom

ZOOM VIRTUAL OPTION

### Minutes

**Members in attendance:** Vanessa Collins, Paul Gasior, Lisa Gray, Tabitha Pilchard, Joe Benyish, Candace Henry, Steve Blankenship, Sara Heim, Jessica Scott, Jennifer Ellis, Isabella Chow

**Absent:** Amy Waters, Matt Hill

**Executive Staff:** Dr. Chuck Wight, Eli Modlin, Dr. Janet Wormack

Vanessa Collins, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:00 am.

#### I. Reports

##### a. *CUSS Update – Paul*

- i. Assembly has fully funded July 2022 merit and COLA.
- ii. Talking to all universities about flexible hours and what they currently offer.
- iii. Shared a video clip from CUSS that explained the services it provides.

##### b. *Eli Modlin*

- i. May 17<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, Wicomico Room – Farewell gathering for Dr. Wight that everyone is invited to attend.

##### c. *Dr. Chuck Wight*

- i. Wanted to thank everyone for the collaboration that has happened during his tenure and Staff Senate's participation in shared governance.
- ii. New President starting July 13<sup>th</sup> – Carolyn "Lyn" Lepre.
- iii. USM vaccine requirement expires at the end of the semester, as well as the routine testing for unvaccinated. Masking will no longer be required on campus but will be recommended in certain areas. Campus Health will be making changes regarding the length of quarantine times.
  1. Since case rates are rising in the country, SU will continue to monitor the situation and make changes as necessary.
  2. KN95 masks will continue to be available for free through the SU Info Desk for those that need them. Campus Health is also continuing to do fittings and provide N95 masks for those that want them.
  3. Buildings may still be card-access only due to those that may have restricted access due to their health status since Campus Health will still be testing and contact tracing.
- iv. SU Shared Governance Survey
  1. Results for SU were very commensurate with the results coming from USM. Saw that there was dissatisfaction regarding the responses to the recommendations submitted.
- v. USM funding reinstatement gave us back some money for the budget but did not fully bring us back to previous. SU is still looking at modest budget cuts for next year. Enrollment is trending upwards; looking at a 7% increase most likely for the upcoming year. Will have the largest incoming class and most diverse (+30% non-white students).

##### d. *Janet Wormack*

- i. Upcoming Budget for FY23

1. Put together a projected budget in March with a revenue estimate of \$190.97M.
2. All departments planning for an up-to-5% reduction in their budgets due to an 8.4% fall-to-fall decline in enrollment over the past 2 years, and a 17% decline since 2019 in registered credit hours.
3. Cost increases in Auxiliary Services due to COVID and inflation issues continue to erode any excess revenues that used to offset revenue shortfalls.
4. USM is looking at compression on a system level and studying how to proceed with salary adjustments, minimum wage, etc.

II. Old Business

a. *FY23 Elections - Steve*

- i. Nomination emails have gone out and have received nominations for every slot except for Government Relations.
  1. Have 3 exempt, 1 non-exempt, and 1 contingent to elect.
- ii. Elections on May 23<sup>rd</sup>; should have new members announced at EAD and have them for the July meeting.

b. **Employee Appreciation Day (EAD) – JUNE 8, 2022**

- i. Going to have all Senators pick out their own Sammy gear to wear instead of having specially made shirts
- ii. \*NEW\* activities for a full day of employee engagement
  1. Currently have several outside vendors either under contract or underway, as well as faculty members lined up for fitness activities.
  2. Will be sending out emails to Deans/AVPs for participants to assist with scooping ice cream in the Fireside Lounge.
  3. Bella put out a call to all Senators to ask for contributions of questions for the online scavenger hunt.
- iii. Email / Invitation / RSVP Subcommittee
  1. Tabitha is currently working on the invitation email; will be trying to get this finished up and emailed within the next week.

III. New Business

a. *Staff Senate Suggestion Box*

- i. Had one question regarding the approval process for telework for those that are lower than director-level. Question must be forwarded to HR since this is their purview.

b. *Staff Retiree Award*

- i. Discussed the details of the requirements and eligibility for this award, as well as deadlines for submission and what benefits this would give the retiree. Staff Senate would vet the recommendations, who would then forward to Exec Staff. Award would be announced during EAD. Asked that HR request that the recognition is named Staff Emeritus since multiple peer institutions use this name.
- ii. Suggesting that submissions be in by April 30<sup>th</sup> so they can be approved by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

IV. Approval of the April Meeting Minutes

- a. *Motion to approve: Joe Benyish*
- b. *Second: Tabitha Pilchard*

V. Adjournment

- a. **Next Meeting – JUNE 8, 2022 – Employee Appreciation Day**
- b. **First meeting of FY23 – JULY 14, 2022**