

University of Maryland, Baltimore Staff Senate  
Open Meeting Minutes  
April 3, 2008  
HSFI 516

**Roll Call:**

Present Senators: Liz Casher, Kiscia Cannon, Shannon Cooper, Dave DeLooze, William Griffin, Roy Ross, Jill Venezian, Danielle Brown, Debbie Horstman, Sharon Andres, John Barber, Colette Becker, Ken Fahnestock, Tom McHugh, Andrea LeFever, Libby Guarnera, Jean Marie Roth.

Excused Senators: Phyllis Lovito, Dionne Washington, Aphrodite Bodycomb, Bill Crockett  
John McNair

Ken called the meeting to order at 12:06 PM and asked for the Roll Call.

**Minutes:** Draft minutes were compiled by Danielle Brown with changes that still need to be made. Motion by Dave DeLooze and seconded by Liz Casher to accept the minutes as submitted with the understanding that corrections would be made and the minutes re-sent to all Senators.

**Remarks from the Executive Committee: Ken**

**Meeting with HR - April 1, 2008**

Mary Digiacinto noted that a number of Staff Senators had not responded to the request for the lunch choices for the upcoming Staff Recognition lunch scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup>. Ken encourages all Senators to contact James Abrams with their choice of meal.

A link to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) will be sent to Ken to send out to the staff with a list of frequently asked questions in regard to the changes in the benefits that have caused the need to do changes to benefits this year using a paper version rather than online as in the past. Ken to send out the link after the meeting.

The Exempt pay structure changes are on the approval path and now needs to go to the Board of regents for final approval. This will normally affect the lower pay levels and the need to bring staff to the new levels if they fall below the minimum level.

Background checks for all faculty, staff and students on payroll is moving forward. This will only affect newly hired personnel at UMB.

HR service staff positions are almost filled back to capacity. The Benefits position is still open and they are close to offering the position. The Manager of HRS remains open and unfilled.

**Meeting with President Ramsey - March 11, 2008**

The majority of the issues that Dr. Ramsay had to discuss with us revolved around the pending State budget. The entire system is expecting cuts in the area of \$6.3 million. The 2% COLA and 2.5% merit is still in the budget to date.

Plans are still on track to place the new UMB bookstore at the current cite of Samuel's Jewelry Store on the corner of Baltimore and Paca Streets.

There are plans to redo the facilities master plan in the near future to include areas on campus which include expansion of the current School of Social Work, plans to add 2 additional floors to the current Nursing School building and Health Sciences III.

**Committee Reports:**

Campus Life - No report Aphrodite should be back with us shortly.

By Laws - Updated Bylaws have been posted to the Website.

### Policy and Legislation Roy Ross

The budget is still moving through the grinding process of review and approval. There were issues related to retention and recruitment that were brought up and the State has approved a \$600 match if an employee has a supplemental retirement account. The state will match the employee contribution up to \$600.

### Communication and Nomination

Staff Senate nominations call for nominations will be sent out in April via e-mail.

An e-mail was sent to Dr. Cardarelli proposing that the Staff Senate and the Faculty Senate have periodic joint meetings when common issues that cross both bodies could be approached as a combined team rather than individual entities. He will discuss this offer at the next executive meeting and get back to me.

Community Outreach - No report.

CUSS: Colette

Big discussion on the Benefits Fair for this year with the change to a paper submission. There was no new news on the domestic partnership issue. The exempt salary structure process is moving forward for approval. There was discussion regarding the staff leadership conference that has been proposed to coincide with the monthly CUSS meetings at the various campuses. There was also discussion about the TIAA Life Cycle Funds. For more information please contact Colette Becker.

### Standing Committees-

Special Events: - Kiscia Cannon

UMB staff Luncheon will be held April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott Hotel. The Staff Senate will have their traditional table for all Senators. We have Senators who are also nominated for Board of Regents staff awards as well as Employees of the month and contenders for UMB Employee of the Year.

IT: No Report

Library: No meeting - no report Next meeting April 14th

Parking: No meeting - no report Next meeting April 15th

Safety Awareness: Jill Venezian

### Old Business:

The concept of the Sunshine Club was brought up again and determined that the concept is worth considering. Ken requested that someone decide to head up the movement to re-establish this club and propose a plan to implement and manage the club funds.

The UMB Photo Contest will be held April 21<sup>st</sup> from 5-6 p.m.

Bill Griffin reported that there is an outreach council that is working with 3 local school systems. They are the George Washington Elementary School, the Diggs Johnson Middle school and the **Vivien T. Thomas Medical. Arts Academy.**

New Business: Jill Venezian

Need to ask Dr. Ramsay about the Women's Forum appointees.

Dave DeLooze announced that UMB once again was the best in the state when it came to the Maryland Charities campaign. We collected donations in the area of \$479,000. While we fell slightly short of Dave's goal of \$500K, we were up \$7,000 over last year.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kenneth Fahnestock  
Temp Secretary Extraordinaire!