

**Faculty Assembly Minutes**

November 14, 2023

Frederick Douglas Library Auditorium

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** ([Click Here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IRIn_KR2RItfYK9su-bk9UwWWbhFLD1n/view?usp=drive_link) to access the meeting recording)

* Meeting started at 11:03 am
* Meeting was called to order by Dr. Joyce Bell
* 16 people in-person; 60 people online

1. **Approval of October 10, 2023 Minutes** – Motion to approve minutes

* Dr. Mark Williams moved to approve minutes
* Dr. Prince Attoh seconded
* All in favor of approving minutes – None Opposed, No abstention

1. **Today’s Business**
2. **President Anderson Updates (Dr. Heidi Anderson)**
   1. **Homecoming.** University is prepared and excited about Homecoming week, and have added additional security and safety protocols and procedures.
   2. **January Professional Development Days**. 2-Day Professional Development – January 22nd and 23rd. Morning of January 22nd – Update/lunch & official Title IX Training (required in-person training). Online/virtual and some in-person sessions.
   3. **November Board of Regents Meeting.** Approved eleven of our academic programs, and we can proceed and move forward with these academic programs.
3. **Provost Allen Updates – (Dr. Rondall Allen)**
4. **Registration Initiative.** Registered 206 students over 2-days. Currently have 840 students registered. Goal – 90% of potential returning students registered before the holiday break. Will send out door prizes and gift cards by next Friday.
5. **Retention Plan Component.** Need feedback on draft plan. Goals of Retention Plan: 4-year graduation rate; 1st – 2nd and 2nd – 3rd; Fall - Spring persistence – need 90% of students that persist from Fall 2023 to Spring 2024 so we can get above 70% for Fall 2024. Need faculty to continue to register students to meet 90% threshold.
6. **Athletic Program Updates** **(Vice President Tara Owens)**
   1. **Division of Athletics & Recreation 2023 Updates**

* Free passes with university ID to support student athletics
* Success in the Classroom – every team (14), except 1, has GPA’s above 3.0
* Tier Levels of Sports:
  + WBB & MBB Tier 1 – fully funded (full scholarships for all athletics); ability to generate funding/resources by winning
  + Volleyball & Bowling – Tier 2 – fully funded & have gained national recognition
  + Cross Country/Track and Field, Golf, Softball & Baseball - Tier 3 Sports – ability to increase enrollment; unlimited number of students that we can recruit to increase enrollment, get more money for all of our programs and more visibility to university
* Partnership & Future Initiatives:
  + Recruiting International
  + Indoor/Outdoor Facility Branding & Upgrades
  + Increasing Enrollment Through Athletics
  + Increasing Student Engagement Opportunities – offering internship opportunities
  + Increasing External Funding – partnerships in surrounding community – gives us more positive visibility
  + Building a Team of Enthusiastic and Passional Individuals Who Have Displayed a High Level of Professionalism
* Health & Wellness Center – Tawes Gym
  + January 2024 – Facilities with Upgrades
  + UMES ESPORTS Lounge housed in Tawes
  + Basketball, Volleyball, Boxing, etc.
* UMES Athletic Vehicles
  + Pohanka has sponsored us with new vehicles (2 vans, 2 SUVs, and 2 electric vehicles) – some vehicles are at no cost to us
  + Coaches can check out vehicles and go out to recruit
  + Pohanka is one of our official sponsors – will have a Pohanka Night at Basketball game
* Supplemental Funding
  + Received the NCAA Accelerating Academic Success Program (AASP) Grant - $100,000
* Softball & Baseball Fields will be renovated – replace grass with turf; teams will be able to play and compete at home. Renovations will start in January 2024
* Adding Men’s Volleyball
  + Able to secure $250,000 grant from USA Volleyball
  + Will start 2024-2025 – hire coach in July 2024
  + Men’s volleyball can have up to 20 players on the team; can only sponsor 4.5 scholarships, so 16 players will be paying full tuition on their own
  + Self-supporting sport through student recruiting
* UMES Alum Wins Professional Bowling Title – Maria Rodriguez
* Hired New Coaches and Staff
  + Vanessa Faircloth - volleyball head coach; Danny Acosta - head baseball coach; Aaron Robinson - head softball coach; Penny Foland - head athletic trainer (looking to hire 2 assistant athletic trainers); Lamar Waul-Branson - program administrative specialist; Khadijah Haaris - business manager; Nick Novy - associate director of external affairs; Alisha Tucker - new deputy

\*Question: Where do we get Homecoming Passes?

\*Answer: ID used for entrance into all athletic games; all other events are paid events – tickets publicized online

\*Question: What is the status of swimming pool?

\*Answer: Working on the swimming pool; in the process of hiring new director of recreation and aquatics; pool will open soon

1. **Standing Committee Updates**
   1. **Academic (Dr. Grace Namwamba)** – Faculty Assembly Academic Standards Committee (FAASC) voted to approve two new programs.
      * + Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Career and Technology – Motion to Approve by Dr. Mark Williams; seconded by Dr. Joyce Bell. No Discussion. Called for Vote – all in favor; none opposed and no abstentions. Motion Carried and the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Career and Technology is approved.
        + Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Work-Based Learning & Career Counseling (supports our technology programs in Baltimore, MD; support teachers that need these certifications – most are self-funded) – Motion to Approve by Dr. Mark Williams; seconded by Dr. Prince Attoh. No Discussion. Called for Vote – all in favor; none opposed and no abstentions. Motion Carried and the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Work-Based Learning & Career Counseling is approved.
        + The certificates will be signed and moved forward in the system.
   2. **Faculty Concerns (Dr. Amy Hagenrater-Gooding)**
      * + Shared results of the 4th survey pertaining to thoughts on rotating chairpersonship – 83 responses
        + 59% - yes would like the option; 31% - no
        + Survey responses will be placed on Faculty Assembly canvas and website
        + Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding discussed certain high points from survey responses
        + Survey responses have been shared with Dr. Brown
        + 360 Review – have 3 members but are looking for more members
        + Looking at establishing a flow chart for a process of concerns – who processes which concerns?
        + Have 13 Faculty Concerns Committee members, meet every Friday at 1:00 pm – please consider joining
   3. **Faculty Communications Committee (Dr. Prince Attoh)**
      * + Brief Announcement – Committee sent out nominations for Chair-Elect for Faculty Assembly; replacement for Dr. Cornelius who has stepped down. Committee would like to get a leader before the Christmas break.
        + Another email will be sent out for Senators – if interested send nominations.

**\***Question: Where to send nominations?

\*Answer: Send nominations to Dr. Attoh or to the other committee members. Looking to vote next week.

\*Question: Who is supposed to be senators?

\*Answer: Representatives from each department – need 16; trying to get a new list of senators that will represent faculty at the UMES Senate meetings.

\*Dr. Williams provides more clarification – generally the senators are elected from the Faculty Assembly and are counselors that the department elects; choice of Faculty Assembly that are elected as senators.

1. **Announcements – All Faculty** 
   1. End of Semester Cheer (Holiday Gathering) – Date in December, 3:00 – 5:00 pm event; stop by to get refreshments
   2. Mr. Joseph Bree:
      * Next year our catalog, and the way we check out books, is going to be changing.
      * Rollout live with new ILS in the fall; currently getting training.
      * Have a new specials collection and Archivist Librarian
2. **Adjournment**
   1. Motion to adjourn – Mr. Joseph Bree; seconded by Dr. Grace Namwamba
   2. Meeting adjourned at 11:58 am