

**UMES Senate Minutes**

February 20, 2024

Frederick Douglas Library Auditorium

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** ([Click Here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_BvDGQFAOMBYh8L_kcwGdXoBfbG86D-T/view?usp=sharing) to access the meeting recording)

* Meeting started at 11:03 am
* Meeting was called to order by Dr. Leesa Thomas-Banks
* Agenda was approved by Mr. Joseph Bree; seconded by Ms. Tselate Talley
* 16 people in-person; 56 people online

1. **Approval of December 12, 2023 Minutes** – Motion to approve minutes

* Dr. Leesa Thomas-Banks moved to approve minutes; seconded by Dr. Reginald Garcon
* All in favor of approving minutes – None Opposed, No abstention

1. **Today’s Business**
2. **Updates from the Office of the President (Dr. Heidi Anderson)**
3. **Research Status.** Huron has been reviewing and assisting with our research efforts for several months, and has recommended that we focus more on our research infrastructure including establishing a central-focused approach. Having Research and Graduate School together was a heavy load. Implemented and reinstated the Acting Vice President for Research position. Dr. Gopalan will serve in this position.

Note: Several of our USM institutions have recently announced their desire to move the campus from no or R3 research status to R2 (Bowie, Coppin, SU – has received approval for a Graduate School and R2 status).

1. **Legislative Session.** 4 Priorities – 1) 1890, State 1-1 Match, 2) Rest of funding for AgRec building, 3) Carver Hall Renovations, and 4) Phase 2 – School of Veterinary Medicine & Health Professions. 
   * Governor Moore is going to double our 1-1 Match; budget will be finalized in April.
   * HBCU Tuition Initiative – UMES & Coppin will give in-state tuition to students coming from states that do not have an HBCU.
   * Governor Moore’s new initiative: ENOUGH Act – Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Government and Households to combat childhood poverty.
   * President Anderson thanked all faculty and staff for their advocacy efforts as well as releasing our students to participate.
2. **Updates from the Office of the Provost (Dr. Rondall Allen)**
   1. **Faculty Handbook.** Have two co-chairs – Dr. Lakeisha Harris and Dr. Joyce Bell. Scheduled to have updates done by the end of the spring semester.
   2. **Sabbatical Workshop.** February 29th at 11:00 am – Hybrid meeting; will send additional information tomorrow.
   3. **Middle States Update.** Thanked faculty and staff; will send our 2nd draft in March for feedback. Middle States visit will be Spring 2025.
3. **Updates from Library Standing Committee (Mr. Joseph Bree & Dr. Carla Sewer)**

* Dr. Carla Sewer is Chair of the Senate Library Committee. She is a librarian, has a MS in Library Science, and a Ph.D. in Family Studies. Works in the Department Human Ecology.
* Library Strong Event – April 7th – 13th, lots of activities planned to bring students to the library.
* Committee met on Friday and decided on events.
  + Library Live
  + Writing Contest (looking to offer prizes)
  + Create Art – have students read books and create art from what they got from the book
* Want everyone to bring their ideas; have student representatives on committee
* Dr. Carla Sewer email address – cmsewer@umes.edu

1. **Updates from Career & Professional Development Center (Ms. Ramona Hart)**

* Ms. Hart thanked the campus community for supporting the Spring Expo/Career Fair.
* Educational Fair at SU – February 28th
* Met with Ms. Katrina Kelly and Dr. Kawanda Williams and asked what they could do to better serve students and departments.
* The Center follows the Handshake Platform to connect with students.
* Career Center – 2 Locations in the SSC – Suite 2185 and Suite 2102 & 2103

1. **Presentation from Counseling Services (Dr. Malkia Johnson)** 
   * + - Dr. Johnson introduced the Counseling Services Team who are all licensed clinicians at the highest level.
       - Counseling Services – collaborative approach between counselor and students.
       - Services are private and confidential; will only share in emergency situations.
       - Offer in-person and virtual services; many students prefer in-person services.
       - Created a Case Management position – Covid was the 1st pandemic & mental health was the 2nd pandemic.
       - Have a Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.
       - Visit to Counseling Services - provide a warm welcoming environment that appeals to the five senses.
       - Provide outreach activities in conjunction with other offices on campus; want to meet the students where they are.
       - Support groups and workshops.
       - Want to create and pass out handouts/flyers to faculty and staff on Common Concerns of Students.
       - Mental Health 1st Aide Training in May.
       - New at Counseling Center
         * Healthy Hawks Program; 24/7 Support Line – In the moment care – 410-651-HELP (4357)
         * Wellness Hub – all services are for students but faculty and staff can access Wellness Hub
         * Partnering with Uwill – they also have a wellness hub.
       - Referrals – respond in 24 hr. time period
         * Walk-in
         * Call – x6449
         * On-line
         * Please call Public Safety if it’s an emergency
       - Working on plans to bring in some workshops and vendors to help faculty and staff (self-care).
         * Create a self-care plan for yourself – take 10 – 15 minutes daily to breathe.
         * All services are for students but the counseling center is working on resources for faculty and staff.
       - Counseling Services Website – https://wwwcp.umes.edu/counselingservices/
       - Propel Grant to develop a UMES App that focuses on mental health.
2. **Announcements – All Members of Senate**

* IRB Fundamentals Workshop will be held tomorrow (February 21st) from 10:00 – 11:00 am in the EASC Room 1088.

1. **Adjournment**

* Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Joseph Bree, seconded by Dr. Heidi Anderson
* Meeting Adjourned around 12:05 pm