Public Session Minutes

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Kweisi Mfume at 8:50 a.m.

Present: Hon. Kweisi Mfume, Chairman; Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Vice Chair; Dr. Tyrone Taborn, Secretary; Mr. Franklin L. Edmonds, Regent; General (Ret.) Larry R. Ellis, Regent; Mr. Dallas R. Evans, Regent; Hon. Senator Laurence Levitan, Regent; Dr. Shirley M. Malcom, Regent; Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Regent; and Ms. Laticia Perine, Student Regent (arrived at 9:15 a.m)

Absent: Hon. Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Regent; Dr. Charles W. Griffin, Regent; Mrs. Penelope J. Taylor, Regent

Staff Present: Dr. David Wilson, President and Mr. Thomas Faulk, Principal Counsel for MSU, Office of the Attorney General, Ms. Julie Goodwin, General Counsel (See attached Roster)

Welcome & Opening Remarks - Chairman Kweisi Mfume
The Chairman thanked the President, the President’s Cabinet staff and the members of the Board of Regents for attending the retreat at this off-site setting. He stated that he hoped that all attendees enjoy the time spent at this venue. He also provided additional logistical announcements regarding the activities of the day.

The Chairman informed the Board that Regent Taylor would not be joining the Board today as she is moving. She asked that he convey her regards to the other members of the Board and the university staff. Regent Griffin would not be joining the meeting today as well, due to ongoing health concerns with his wife. Regent Cummings is on the house schedule and may or may not be able to join us based on his commitments in Washington.

Chairman Mfume congratulated Dr. Shirley Malcom as she is to be inducted in to US News and World Reports STEM Hall of Fame on June XX, 2015. This very prestigious honor recognize individuals in this field. We are extremely proud of Regent Malcolm’s accomplishments. Thank you and congratulations!
Congratulations also is extended to Dr. Willie Larkin. Dr. Larkin was appointed as the ninth president of Grambling State University. The Chairman thanked Dr. Larkin for his work and support of this Board during his tenure at Morgan State University. He again congratulated Dr. Larkin and invited the Board to share their sentiments and well wishes personally throughout the day or at an event that may be scheduled at a later time.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Popovich for his 25 years of service to Morgan State. He stated that this is Dr. Popovich’s last retreat with the Board and this university. He congratulated and thanked Dr. Popovich for his significant contributions to the institution. On behalf of the Board, he wished him and his family the very best.

The Chairman welcomed several new university staff. Dr. Gibson, this is your first retreat and Mr. Evans and Dr. Oladipupo, as well. He stated that he hoped that this was just the first of many retreats for each of them here at Morgan State University.

He also added that he was excited about Morgan’s participation in the Yellow Ribbon program. He stated that he would be remiss if he did not thank General Ellis for his tenacity in ensuring that MSU was a part of this program. The Chair also thanked Regent Taborn for being a strong advocate and a major proponent in the university’s becoming a part of this important endeavor. Congratulations MSU.

On a sadder note, the Chair noted that former colleague and Board Chairman, Bill Roberts lost his wife Cherie. They were two Morgan graduates who met on campus, were married at Morgan and gave back to this institution. This is a sad loss for him and their daughter Hilary. The Chairman further added that collectively and individually their heartfelt condolences go out to the Roberts’ family.

The Chair gave a gentle reminder to the members of the Board of Regents that the Maryland State Ethics Commissions Financial Disclosure forms should be filed. He noted that if they had not done so to date, for members to please do so right away.

The Chairman yielded the floor to President Wilson for welcoming remarks.

President Wilson welcomed everyone to the Board’s Annual Retreat. He said that he wanted to take this opportunity to reiterate what the Chairman said without being redundant. He, too, congratulated Dr. Larkin for his appointment as the President of Grambling State University. He said that Dr. Larkin has been his able assistant for nine years.

**Board Governance-Chairman Kweisi Mfume**

**Reappointment of Standing Committees**
The Chairman reappointed the Chairpersons and members of the Board’s Standing Committees. He also appointed vice chairs to the committees. See the attached 2015-2016 Committee Roster. The Chairman appointed Regent Draper to the Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee, as well.

**University/Board Dates for the 2015-2016 Academic Year**
The Chairman noted that a calendar for the 2015-2016 academic year was included in the Board Resources binders. He referenced several upcoming dates and highlighted the coming activities for Board members.

**Board Portal Software Presentation - Dr. Linda Mehlinger**
Dr. Mehlinger provided an overview of the Board portal system. She discussed the capabilities and functionality, as well as the ease of use. Dr. Mehlinger stressed to the Board that this was a secure portal in which the Board members could review documents, approve documents, vote on matters, if need be, as well as access and archive materials for reference at any time. She informed the Board that there would be training, individual or group, as needed by Board members. Chairman Mfume asked Ms. Hart if she had further comment to which she stated that the Board Office would be available to lead and support this effort on an ongoing basis. Ms. Hitchcock informed the Regents that this system has been in use by the Foundation Board for over one year. It has been successful and well received. The Chairman stated that the Board would begin usage of the portal system, at a cursory level, for the August 4, 2015 meeting.

**State of the University (Strategic Plan Update) - Dr. David Wilson**
President Wilson provided an overview of the State of the University and the many aspects of the latest developments at the institution. Dr. Wilson paralleled the activities as they tracked to the goals and objectives in the university’s strategic plan. See attached.
In the interest of time, the President abbreviated his report with the thought that some of the subject matter would be covered in the President’s Evaluation section of the agenda.

**Update on the IT Infrastructure - Dr. Adebisi Oladipupo**
Dr. Oladipupo offered highlights on the IT infrastructure upgrade and the systems. He noted where the institution was within the process and identified the benefits of the upgrade to the university as a whole. He outlined the areas that would be focused on in the initial phase and how the project would cascade throughout the organization. Dr. Oladipupo abbreviated his presentation and Regent Edmonds, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, was asked to meet with the team and bring the matter through his committee for review prior to the August Board meeting.

The Board adjourned for lunch for lunch at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.
Northwood Development & Morgan Partnership-Dr. David Wilson
Dr. Wilson provided an overview of the “read-ahead” materials that were sent to the Board. He provided an update on the status of the potential development at Northwood and the status of the discussion with the potential developer. The Board provided comments and feedback on the potential of the partnership. They requested that the university team include the proposed recommendations as discussion continue researching this project.

The Chairman stated that the Board would entertain a motion to convene the meeting in Closed Session to discuss the agenda items specifically exempted under the Open Meetings Act.

The **MOTION** to move into Closed Session was made by Regent Draper and **SECONDED** by Regent Levitan.

The **MOTION** carried **UNANIMOUSLY**.

The Chairman stated that it was now the intention of the Board to reconvene in Closed Session. In Closed Session the Board will (1) Receive a Review of the Marble Hall Lease, (2) Receive an Update on Recent Audits and Investigations, (3) Receive an Update on the Coalition Case, and (4) Receive the President’s Evaluation.

The Chairman read for the record the citation to close the meeting and stated that this portion of the meeting was now closed.

**Adjournment**
The Public Session **ADJOURNED** at 2:16 pm