Board of Regents Minutes
Public Session
August 7, 2012

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Dallas R. Evans at 12:05 p.m.

PRESENT

Mr. Dallas R. Evans, Chairman
Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Vice Chairman
Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Secretary
The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Regent (Tele-conference)
Mr. Franklin L. Edmonds, Regent
General (Ret.) Larry R. Ellis, Regent
Dr. Linda J. Gilliam, Regent
Dr. Charles W. Griffin, Regent
Senator Laurence Levitan, Regent
Dr. Shirley M. Malcom, Regent
Dr. Kweisi Mfume, Regent
Mr. William R. Roberts, Regent
Ms. Karen N. Darkes, Student Regent

Dr. David Wilson, University President
Ms. Elena Langrill, Assistant Attorney General

ABSENT

Mr. Donald E. Frieson, Regent
Mrs. Penelope J. Taylor, Regent
Opening Remarks

Chairman Evans stated that the Board would follow the agenda and asked that the committees move expeditiously with their reports. He stated that a closed session will follow the public meeting. The Chairman welcomed everyone back to a new school year and acknowledged Ms. Karen N. Darkes, the Student Regent for the 2012-2013 school year.

Approval of Minutes

It was MOVED by Vice Chairman Resnick and SECONDED by Regent Ellis to approve the minutes of May 1, 2012 and June 7, 2012. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Report of the President

President Wilson reported on the following topics:

Public Safety Enhancements on Campus

Morgan State University takes its primary mission to provide a safe and healthy learning and living environment very seriously. Over the last several months, we have been looking at ways to continually improve upon the strategies and initiatives that we have in place to ensure a safe environment for our University community.

The President stated that effective August 8, 2012, Adrian G. Wiggins, Chief of Police, will assume the title of Executive Director of the Office of Campus and Public Safety. In addition to being in charge of daily policing operations, this office will be spearheading a campus-wide effort that will integrate policies, people and systems to develop an effective and comprehensive safety program that will include daily operations and long-term priorities for campus safety, emergency management, risk management, access control, early detection systems, and compliance with federal, state, local, and institutional regulations, etc.

Chief Wiggins will no longer serve as Chief of Police, but a national search will be undertaken soon to identify an individual for that role. Meanwhile, Deputy Police Chief Lance Hatcher will assume the role of Interim Police Chief.
Threat Assessment Plan

President Wilson reported that a threat assessment team has been assembled at the University as part of a comprehensive approach to identifying risks and threats on the campus. This team, while small in number, will represent the key pressure points at the University, i.e., the Police Department, Residence Life, Academic Affairs, Counseling Center, etc.

Judicial Action Package

The University has purchased and is implementing a student affairs package called Judicial Action. This package is a management tool that will include a data base that can be accessed by various units on campus that deal with student conduct. Some of those units include: Counseling Center, Police Department, Residence Life, and others. It is the President’s expectation that this system will enable the units to identify possible patterns of behavior that might identify at-risk or aberrant student behavior on campus.

We are also reviewing the Code of Student Conduct to determine whether it should be revised or updated to more clearly address off-campus student behavior.

Campus Safety

The University had made a major investment in increased lighting on the campus, and has instituted a student escort service that is available for students anytime after 7 p.m. We have also purchased several segways to increase police officer presence and agility on the campus.

Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Performance-Based Funding Formula

During the Legislative Session last year, there was a robust discussion about performance-based funding for higher education. Both the Senate higher education subcommittee and the House Committee on Education led this discussion. At the end of the discussion, the Joint Chairs of those committees gave MHEC a charge which was to work with the University System of Maryland, Saint Mary’s and Morgan to come forward with a framework for performance-based and outcomes-based budgeting in the State of Maryland. The report is due December 1, 2012.
While we at Morgan have major concerns about performance-based budgeting, we have no choice but to participate in this conversation. The President stated that he has had several conversations with his Cabinet about measures that we should consider that would be in line with Morgan’s mission. Attached is Morgan’s submittal to MHEC.

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) Meeting with Google X

About two months ago, Dr. Joseph Popovich and the President were invited to a White House meeting with Dr. Sebastian Thrun, co-founder of Google X, founder and president of UDACITY, and a professor of computer science at Stanford. He gave a presentation on online education as the panacea for democratizing higher education.

Following the White House visit, the President was invited out to Palo Alto, California to meet with Dr. Thrun and his colleagues at UDACITY to discuss their approach to online education. There is a very exciting development that has taken place in higher education where many of the elite institutions in the country have begun to offer several of their courses online without charge.

Morgan is currently in discussions with UDACITY about a partnership where, perhaps, some of our students might be able to take courses like Introduction to Computer Science, Introduction to Statistics, and Introduction to Physics at no cost and have those courses count toward credits for their academic degrees.

The President stated that he will keep the Board up-to-date as the talks unfold.

New Division at Morgan

Dr. Wilson stated that he was pleased to announce the formation of a new Division at Morgan – the Division of Academic Outreach and Engagement. This unit will be led by Dr. Maurice Taylor and will have a significant entrepreneurial focus. The departments falling under its aegis include: Continuing Studies, the on-line program, summer school, minimester, the 2 + 2 Program and others. Included in your Board book is an organizational chart detailing the structure of the Division.

Junior Olympics

Last week, the Morgan campus was transformed into a mini London. For the second time in six years, the University hosted the USATF National Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships. What is noteworthy is that we had over 8,000 junior athletes on this campus
from all over the United States, and several thousand parents, relatives and supporters. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the University and to introduce Morgan to an audience that for the most part, had not been to our campus. Feedback that I have received was very positive. Individuals were impressed with our University, including all of the people who provided assistance to make this event happen.

President Wilson expressed his appreciation to Ms. Tanya Rush, the Acting Vice President for Student Affairs, who headed a team of colleagues throughout the University community that resulted in a very successful Junior Olympics.

**The White House African-American Public Policy Forum**

In July, Morgan State University was selected by the White House to host one of four national forums on issues facing the African-American community. More than 300 individuals came to Morgan to participate in this day-long forum which was highlighted by the presence of Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama. In addition, several officials from numerous federal agencies were on campus and lead various workshops throughout the day on issues ranging from small business growth and development to housing and education.

**Center for the Built Environment and Infrastructure Studies (CBEIS) Building Opening**

Plans have now been made to officially open the CBEIS Building on September 20, 2012. As you know, the CBEIS Building is a $62.8 million project and is the first green building on campus. It houses the School of Architecture and Planning, as well as the Departments of Civil and Transportation Engineering. Ms. Cheryl Hitchcock is chairing the committee planning the celebration, and the President stated that he hopes that all members of the Board will be able to attend the event.

**Getting Ready for ‘150’**

President Wilson stated that he is pleased to inform the Board that efforts are now underway at the University to plan for our 150th birthday, or in academic parlance, our sesquicentennial. Dr. Burney Hollis, former Dean of the College of Liberal Arts had been asked to chair the planning committee, and he graciously agreed to do so.

The President stated that he will be updating the Board in the coming months as to our thinking about how we will celebrate the University’s magnificent achievements over the last 150 years.
$1.2 Million Annuity

Finally, the President stated that we have made investments in our Office of Institutional Advancement, and those investments are paying off handsomely. Just a few weeks ago, the Office of Development captured its first major annuity gift – a $1.2 million annuity gift to the University by Mr. Jesse Brown.

Kudos to Ms. Cheryl Hitchcock, Ms. Donna Howard, and Mrs. Henri Banks who played a major role in making this happen.

Reports of Standing Committees

Academic and Student Affairs

Regent Gilliam filed the report for the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and offered the following information.

Bachelor of Science Degree in Supply Chain Management

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Supply Chain Management Program did not require action.

Finance and Facilities

Regent Edmonds presented the report for the Finance and Facilities Committee and offered the following items for approval by the Board.

Revisions to the Policy on Tuition Waiver

On November 1, 2011, the Board was advised of changes to the tuition waiver policy that were under consideration but wanted feedback from the Board before proceeding. Proposed revisions at that time were:

- Undergraduate
  Extend the age that dependent children qualify for tuition waiver from under age 24 to under age 26.

During the Committee’s discussion, it was noted that:
The University System of Maryland (Morgan has a reciprocal tuition waiver agreement) does not provide graduate tuition waiver benefits to spouses or dependents if employed after January 1, 1990.

Morgan also offers undergraduate tuition waiver benefits to dependent grandchildren, but the University System of Maryland does not.

The Committee asked that the staff consider if the University wants to continue the graduate and undergraduate grandchildren benefits if we want to offer benefits close to the System.

In consideration of all factors and input from the Committee, the University is requesting that the Board approve the following revisions to the tuition waiver policy:

- Extend undergraduate tuition waiver benefits to employees' dependent children from the current limit of underage 24 to qualifying children under age 26.
- Eliminate graduate benefits for new employees' spouses, dependent children, and dependent grandchildren.
- Eliminate undergraduate benefits for new employees' dependent grandchildren.

The proposed amendments were presented to the University Council, the Fraternal Order of Police (no current contract), and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for their information and endorsement. Two of the three organizations support the revisions. AFSCME was not in support of the reduced benefits. They wanted current contractual employees who are converted to regular employees in the future, with three years of consecutive full-time employment, to have the same tuition waiver benefits before the effective date of the proposed amendments.

It was MOVED by Regent Edmonds and SECONDED by Vice Chairman Resnick to approve the revisions to the Policy on Tuition Waiver. THE MOTION CARRIED.

FY 2014 Operating Budget Request

For FY 2014, the University is planning to request approximately $22.3 million in recurring general fund support, increasing from $74.1 million to $96.4 million or a 30 percent increase. Also, the University anticipates approximately $2.5 million in additional tuition
revenue. If achieved, tuition revenue would increase from $55.6 million to $58.1 million. The Board is not being asked to approve tuition increases until after the Governor has finalized his state support recommendation. The proposed operating budget submission totals $24.8 million (see attachments).

It was MOVED by Regent Edmonds and SECONDED by Regent Levitan to approve the FY 2014 Operating Budget Request. THE MOTION CARRIED.

FY 2014 Capital Budget Request

The University previously presented its proposed FY 2014 five-year Capital Budget Request to be submitted to the Department of Budget and Management on June 30, 2012. At the time, the numbers were preliminary as cost estimates had not yet been finalized. The President was authorized to make adjustments as necessary which were to be reported to the Board at its next scheduled meeting. The University has updated the schedule and cost for all projects and, consequently, the five-year request totals $473.2 million of which $66.6 million is requested for FY 2014.

It was MOVED by Regent Edmonds and SECONDED by Vice Chairman Resnick to approve the FY 2014 Capital Budget Request. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Audit and Institutional Assessment

Regent Roberts reported that the Committee did not have any items for action and referred to Mr. Abraham Mauer, Director of Internal Audit and Management Review, for comments. Mr. Mauer stated that the Committee reviewed the Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee's Audit Charter and Audit Plan. The Charter and Plan will be reviewed thoroughly by the Committee and seek approval by the Board at the next meeting.

Student Regent Darkes stated that Student Constitution will be re-vamped, giving the students and administration an opportunity to provide their input and will be brought to the Board in November.

The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Newson