



Office of the Board of Regents

Board of Regents Minutes
Public Session
February 7, 2012

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Dallas R. Evans at 1:50 p.m.

Present

Mr. Dallas R. Evans, Chairman
Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Vice Chairman
Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Secretary
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
Mr. Kweisi Mfume, Regent
Mr. William R. Roberts, Regent
Ms. Andrea Carrington, Student Regent

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

Absent

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Regent
Mr. Donald R. Frieson, Regent
Dr. Shirley M. Malcom, Regent
Mrs. Penelope Taylor, Regent (left during Closed Session)

Opening Remarks

Chairman Evans welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the New Year and offered his wishes for a very productive 2012.

Approval of Minutes

It was MOVED by Vice Chairman Resnick and SECONDED by Regent Gilliam to approve the minutes of November 1, 2011. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Remarks by Counsel

No new items to report.

Report of the President

President Wilson reported on the following:

The Coalition Trial

The Coalition trial began on Tuesday, January 3, 2012. President Wilson was the second witness called to testify. The testimony spanned two days. Former President Earl Richardson, Mr. Raymond Vollmer, Dr. Joseph Popovich and Dr. Maurice Taylor testified. General Counsel Julie Goodwin, who attends the trial each day, can provide more expansive details if necessary.

The Governor's Budget

The University requested \$19.8 million for its FY'13 operating budget. Approximately \$10 million was requested to enable the University to reduce the percent of contractual faculty from 30% to roughly 10%, and sought other funding to enable the University to increase financial aid to students and to support its continued growth. We were informed by Secretary T. Eloise Foster that the Governor's budget would not provide funding for any of the requests made for academic enhancements (i.e., contractual faculty, financial aid, library resources and technology enhancements, etc.), nor would funding be offered to any USM institutions for programmatic enhancements.

Dr. Wilson expressed appreciation to everyone involved in the preparation of his budget testimony. Included in the Governor's budget are the following:

- (1) 2% tuition subsidy amounting to approximately \$422,000, with the understanding that the University will not increase tuition rates by more than 3%.
- (2) \$453,000 to cover a new health management system for the Department of Information Technology; \$497,000 to cover health insurance costs; and \$90,000 for state retirement fees.

Contractual Faculty

If the University introduces a supplemental budget request, the Governor will consider the \$2 million requested to enable the University to convert about 40 contractual faculty positions to full-time positions.

Tuition Increase

Included in the Governor's budget is a tuition subsidy of 2% from the State which is designed to enable the University to keep the tuition increase at 3% in the coming year, and funding to support increased costs of health insurance, utilities and the like, thereby resulting in a flat funding for the operational budget.

Capital Budget Successes

The University was successful in securing funding for several capital initiatives:

- funding for the Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management was moved forward by one year.
- funding to enable the design of a bridge across Hillen Road to connect the new School of Business and Management to the south campus.
- funding to continue planning for the design of a new Jenkins Behavioral Sciences Complex.
- \$5 million for various maintenance projects throughout the campus.

Legislative Agenda

A number of bills have been introduced in the Legislative session. Bills on the University's radar include:

- 1) HIB38 – Sales and Use Tax – Exemption – University and College Textbooks
Full-time and part-time students showing valid student identification when purchasing textbooks will not pay sales or use tax.
- 2) HIB62 – State Government – Public Information Act – Public Institutions of Higher Education – Permissible Denials

Authorizes the custodian of the records at a public institution of higher learning to deny access to certain information produced by its faculty or staff and which relates to data associated with certain research on medical, scientific, technical or scholarly issues.

- 3) HB529 – Environmental – Local Storm water Charges – State Property
Although heretofore exempt, if passed, the University will be subject to storm water run-off charges for water from the campus entering the City's storm drains.
 - The President is asking that the Board support this legislation.
- 4) SB 239 – Economic Development – Maryland Technology Development Corporation – Maryland Innovative Initiative
Faculty members of qualified participating universities who are conducting research that is ready for commerce may apply for grant funding to handle certain start-up costs.
 - The \$250,000 that the University would be required to contribute annually is a bit onerous for Morgan. The assessment should be based on the amount of research dollars coming to the University. The University supports this bill in theory, but will introduce several amendments for Board approval.
- 5) SB 241 – Civil Marriage Protection Act
Legalizes same sex marriage and protects clergy and others authorized to marry from being forced to conduct such marriage against their will or belief.
 - The President is recommending that the University remains neutral on this issue.
- 6) SB261 – Northeast Maryland Higher Education Advisory Board
Establishes a nine-person Northeast Maryland Advisory Board; one of which will come from each of the four Institutions of Higher Education offering a MHEC approved program at the HEAT Center.

This establishment would offer universities a greater presence in Northeast Maryland, enabling them to offer programs in the area. This will also ensure that Morgan will be a part of the governance of the Center. The recommendation is that the nine-person Northeast Maryland advisory board is comprised of private sector people, including one person from out-of-state.

 - The President recommends that the University support the bill with the caveat that the out-of-state person on the Board not be appointed Chair.

As we move through the legislative session, Morgan's agenda consists of the following additional items:

- making the case for relief for contractual faculty;
- securing funding to enable the University to begin the design of the demolition of Soper Library;
- advocating for a sliding scale contribution with regard to the Governor's Initiative and Economic Development bill (SB237) targeting innovation and technologies coming out of research institutions.

Chairman Evans asked that a motion be made in support of the above legislative items.

It was Moved by Regent Draper and SECONDED by Regent Mfume to support the legislation. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Evans then added that a mechanism should be implemented for reporting updates on legislation to the Regents.

Search Firm

Asher Greenwood and Associates was selected as the search firm to provide assistance in filling the following vacancies:

- Vice President for Research and Economic Development
- Vice President for Student Affairs
- Dean of the College of Liberal Arts
- Dean of the School of Community Health and Policy
- Dean of the School of Business and Management

New Appointments

Mr. Abraham Mauer has been appointed Director of Internal Audit and Management. Mr. Mauer comes to the University from Johns Hopkins University where he served as Senior Operational Internal Auditor from February, 2004 through December, 2008; and Senior Information Technology Auditor from January, 2009 to the present.

Also, the search process is nearing conclusion for the Director of EEO and Diversity.

Alumni Giving

The University is gearing up for its second major fundraising campaign. At the end of 2011, the alumni giving rate had increased from 6.4% to 10.4%. It is critically important that our focus is on increasing this number. Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Joyce Brown, Ms. Cheryl Hitchcock, Ms. Donna Howard and all of the Development and Alumni Relations colleagues for their efforts. Over 1200 more alumni gave to the University in 2011 over 2010.

Conference Call with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan

President Wilson was on a conference call with Secretary Arne Duncan who was following up with several education leaders around the country on President Barack Obama's State of the Union address on college costs and affordability. A change will occur with the Pell grant program. While the amount of the Pell grant award will not change in the coming year, full-time students will now be eligible for the grant for twelve (12) semesters, as opposed to the current eighteen (18) semesters. Also, President Obama's administration is thinking about ways to work with universities to try and reduce the cost of attendance. Because of dwindling state support, universities have no recourse other than to raise tuition in order to maintain academic quality.

Customer Service Update

On Friday, February 3rd, President Wilson held two, two-hour overviews with all student support offices on the campus. A firm has been hired to begin providing ongoing customer service training for all supervisors and front line officers. A Customer Service Director will also be hired in the next few weeks who will put together an ongoing program of excellence in customer service throughout the University. Dr. Joseph Popovich and his staff will design a base line survey so that the success of the University's emphasis on customer service can be tracked.

Visit of NASA Administrator

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden visited the campus on January 25th. Mr. Bolden had an opportunity to see firsthand some of the exciting research being conducted at the University in partnership with NASA. He indicated that he came to Morgan expecting to see some good work, but what he saw was extraordinary work.

White House Board of Advisors on Campus

President Barack Obama's Board of Advisors on HBCUs, of which President Wilson is a member, arrived on campus on February 6th. They toured the campus, had dinner and were regaled with performances by members of the Choir and the Jazz Ensemble. The actual Board meeting was held in the Student Center on February 7th.

Report of Standing Committees

Chairman Evans extended a welcome to Mrs. Penelope Taylor even though she had to leave during the Closed Session. He also said every effort would be made to have former Regent, Shirley Marcus Allen, at the next meeting to receive recognition for her service on the Board.

Academic and Student Affairs

Chairman Evans thanked Regent Gilliam for stepping in to chair the meeting.

Item(s) for Action

Amendments to the Morgan State University Policy on Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures

The appeals procedure applies to appeals related to attorney or advisor representation. It does not apply to appeals of disciplinary actions. If the presiding officer finds a representative responsible for violation(s) of the provision(s) of this sub-section of the Code, the presiding officer may suspend a representative from the privilege of representation. A suspended representative may appeal the suspension to the Vice President for Student Affairs, or designee, within ten (10) business days of receipt of the letter notifying the representative of the appealed decision. Decisions of the Vice President for Student Affairs shall be final. When the appealed decision is made by the Vice President for Student Affairs, an appeal of that decision shall instead be made to the Executive Assistant to the President, or designee, within ten (10) business days of receipt of the letter notifying the party of the Vice President's decision, in such cases the decision of the Executive Assistant to the President, or designee shall be final.

It was MOVED by Regent Gilliam and SECONDED by Regent Griffin to approve the Amendment to the Morgan State University Policy on Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Revised Admission Policy for Entering Freshmen

The current requirements are 2.0 GPA; 850 SAT or 17 ACT; and a guidance counselor or teacher recommendation. It is proposed that admission to the university will instead be based on a combination of the applicant's overall high school academic record, standardized test scores, and other factors that will provide a holistic view of the applicant. The proposed minimum high school requirements are: 4 years English; 3 years Science; 3 years History or Social Sciences; 3 years Mathematics; and 2 years Foreign Language or Advanced Technology Education. Other factors that will be considered include: rigor of the high school's academic program; strength of curriculum; progression of performance; SAT 1 or ACT scores; class rank; student essay; extracurricular activities; counselor and teacher recommendations; and leadership in school/community activities. Unique talents and/or abilities, personal experiences and background, Maryland residency, and alumni affiliation may also be taken into consideration.

This revision will align the University with other four-year institutions. Discussion then turned to the use of the common application, which the University is fully on board with.

It was MOVED by Regent Gilliam and SECONDED by Regent Griffin to approve the Revised Admission Policy for Entering Freshmen. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Items(s) for Information

Update on HBCU – Brazil Alliance

Dr. T. Joan Robinson visited Brazil as part of President Obama and the President of Brazil's initiative to send 100,000 students from Brazil to the U.S. for training. This effort is in part, generally, because Afro-Brazilians do not go on to higher education. As a result, fifty students from Brazil are scheduled to come to Morgan in the fall semester. Thus far, the Bylaws and Memorandum of Understanding have been submitted. We are waiting to hear from Brazil.

Finance and Facilities

Item(s) for Action

FY 2013 Tuition and Fee Increase

Approval is requested for tuition and fee increases in support of instruction, instructional support and other University services for FY 2013 operations.

Committee Chair, Regent Edmonds, was pleased to report that there was 100 percent participation by the committee, as has been the case for the past two years or more. There was unanimous approval of this item.

Mr. Vollmer noted that the recommended increase for tuition is 3.0% for full-time and part-time, in-state students, and 1.5% for full-time and part-time, out-of-state students. The full-time mandatory fees will increase by \$18; from \$2,388 to \$2,406, or by 0.75%.

It was MOVED by Regent Edmonds and SECONDED by Regent Resnick to approve the FY 2013 tuition and fee increase. THE MOTION CARRIED.

General Ellis expressed concerns about the increase, asking why fees have to be increased with the increase in enrollment. Regent Resnick agreed, and was sympathetic to what General Ellis was saying. Regent Griffin wondered if the committee could go back and discuss the issue further based on what General Ellis brought up.

Regents Ellis and Griffin OPPOSED the FY 2013 tuition and fee increase.

Revisions to Tuition Waiver Policy

Approval is requested to delete members of the Board of Regents from the Policy on Tuition Waiver.

Members of the Board of Regents and spouses and dependent children of current members of the Morgan State University Board of Regents should be deleted from the current policy on tuition waiver. The Regents serve without compensation, and as such, waiver of tuition would be considered compensation.

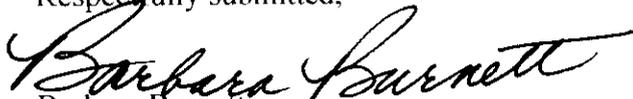
It was MOVED by Regents Edmonds and SECONDED by Regent Draper to approve the deletion of members of the Board of Regents and spouses and dependent children of current members of the Board of Regents from the Policy on Tuition Waiver. THE MOTION CARRIED.

New Business

Chairman Evans announced the formation of the committee to elect new Board officers. Regent Levitan will chair the committee, with Regents Griffin and Frieson serving as members.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara Burnett