



Office of the Board of Regents

**Board of Regents Minutes  
Public Session  
May 1, 2012**

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Dallas R. Evans at 12:30 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  
Mr. Franklin L. Edmonds, Regent  
General (Ret.) Larry R. Ellis, Regent  
Mr. Donald R. Frieson, Regent  
Dr. Linda J. Gilliam, Regent  
Dr. Charles W. Griffin, Regent  
Senator Laurence Levitan, Regent  
Dr. Shirley M. Malcom, Regent  
Mr. Kweisi Mfume, Regent  
Mr. William R. Roberts, Regent  
Mrs. Penelope J. Taylor, Regent  
Ms. Andrea E. Carrington, Student Regent

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

**Opening Remarks**

Chairman Evans recognized several Board members, Regents Roberts, Ellis, Cummings, and Malcom, who were recently honored and congratulated the Regents for their accomplishments and stated that they are representing Morgan State University well.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for February 7, 2012 were approved as distributed.

**Remarks by Counsel**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Special Recognitions**

Chairman Evans welcomed Ms. Shirley Marcus Allen to meeting and presented Ms. Allen with a Resolution on behalf of the Board of Regents, in recognition of her excellence service on the Board, for her role as Secretary of the Board and her position as Chairperson of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. The Resolution was read to those present, after which presented to former Regent Allen. Ms. Allen expressed her appreciation to the Board, President, administration, staff and students and stated that it had been a privilege serving on the Board of Regents at Morgan State University.

Chairman Evans also recognized Student Regent Andrea E. Carrington for her outstanding service on the Board and stated that she had done a great job. Ms. Carrington thanked everyone for helping her to grow this past year. And in response to her future plans, she stated she would be attending graduate school.

The Lady Bears cheerleaders received a citation for winning the MEAC all-girls division championship for the second consecutive year. The cheerleaders placed number six in the nation in the all-girls competition.

Dr. Louise C. Hellwig, Chemistry Department Lecturer and Mentor to the Chemistry Club received a citation on behalf of the Chemistry Club and Dr. Hellwig stated that the club deserved the award and she will present the citation to the Chemistry Club.

The Honda All-Star Team was recognized and received a citation for winning the academic competition. As a result of winning the national competition, a \$50,000 grant from the Honda Corporation will be provided to Morgan State University.

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**Report of the President**

President Wilson reported on the following:

Spring Has Sprung on the Morgan Campus

President Wilson stated that he hopes that all of the Regents have noticed that the landscaping on the quad is nearing completion, and the campus is abuzz with activity. He stated that he see students gathering now on a wireless quad with I-pods and lap tops in tow, and he occasionally stumble across small groups of students in animated discussions about the issues of the day. You will also notice that we have completed the repainting of Holmes Hall and are nearing completion of the repainting of Truth Hall. He stated that he hopes that the Board members will amble about the campus to see its building beauty.

Winning Championships

The President stated that he was pleased to report that the Lady Bears Cheerleaders won the MEAC all-girls division championship for the second consecutive year, and went on to place number six in the nation in the all-girls competition. He stated that he was very pleased with the performance of the Lady Bears at the MEAC tournament and received great feedback from the coach and others regarding their performance at the nationals.

For the first time in 23 years, Team Morgan won the Honda All-Star Academic Competition. The competition was held March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Honda headquarters in Torrance, California. Winning the national competition resulted in a \$50,000 grant from the Honda Corporation to Morgan State University, and it landed in the Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> edition of *USA Today* (page 5A).

Congratulations to our Honda All-Stars, and the President stated that he is elated that the Board officially recognized them today.

Special Recognitions

During the month of February, our very own Dr. Ruthe Sheffey was honored by Governor Martin O'Malley as an outstanding African American during Black History Month. Dr. Sheffey, who has been at Morgan for over half a century, was celebrated at Government House in the company of a mix of leaders and dignitaries around the state. We salute Dr. Sheffey.

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Further, Professor Molefi K. Asante has been featured at least twice in the last several months in the *New York Times*. The President shared with the Board a copy of Professor Asante's recent coverage in the *Times*. We are very fortunate to have a young scholar of Professor Asante's repute here at Morgan. His area of expertise is studying the nuances, culture, history and character of the hip-hop movement and generation. Next semester, the Office of the President will be sponsoring an "Evening with Professor Asante," and the Board will be informed of this activity and encourage you to attend what will be a memorable and unforgettable lecture.

The President recognized several Regents who have been awarded special recognition in the last several months.

- (1) Regent Larry Ellis was named Outstanding Male of the Year by Opportunity Innovation Funding out of Atlanta, Georgia. This is an entity that promotes business plan competition amongst the business schools at historically black colleges and universities. Dr. Wilson attended the event, and congratulated Regent Ellis on this outstanding achievement.
- (2) Regent Elijah Cummings was recognized by NAFEO for his contributions to the advancement of historically black colleges and universities, and was presented with a special commendation during its recently-held annual meeting in Washington, DC. Congratulations to Regent Cummings.
- (3) Regent Shirley Malcom was prominently featured as a member of the panel on the State of African American Males in STEM Fields, which was recently held at the NASA Headquarters and sponsored by AAAS and the American Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities. We applaud Regent Malcom for her continued effort to bring recognition to the plight of blacks and other minorities in science, engineering and math fields.
- (4) Regent Frank Edmonds was honored by MEAC as Morgan State University's Outstanding Alumnus at the MEAC Tournament in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.
- (5) On last night, several Regents and members of the administration attended the Maryland Chamber of Commerce/Hall of Fame Dinner where we saw Regent Bill Roberts inducted into its Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding career at Verizon. We applaud Regent Roberts' accomplishments.

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Customer Service and Student Satisfaction

Since the last Board meeting, we have designed and administered a student survey to ascertain their satisfaction with a number of services that we provide at the University. For your information, the Board received a copy of the survey as well as a summary of its results. The takeaway is that the students gave us a "C" grade (2.4 out of 4.0). The highest rating was for the Student Center and the Library; and the lowest was for food service on campus. We have a lot to improve upon at our beloved University.

In that connection, the President reported that we now have hired our very first Director of Customer Service at Morgan, Ms. Shannon M. Dawkins. Ms. Dawkins comes to the University from Baltimore Healthy Start, Inc., where she served as Director of Human Resource Development. We have also engaged the firm, Customer Service Experts, Incorporated, out of Annapolis, Maryland, who will now be working with the University in an ongoing capacity to create a culture of excellence in customer service at Morgan.

Capital Budget

As some of you heard in the Finance Committee meeting, the University did fairly well this year in the capital budget process. We emerged with funding for the following:

<u>Project</u>	<u>University Request</u>	<u>Governor's Recommendation</u>	<u>Legislative Approval</u>
New School of Business Complex & ConnectingBridge	\$34,407,000	\$20,685,000	\$20,685,000 P,C
New Jenkins	\$ 4,931,000 P	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 3,500,000 P
Campus-wide Site Improvements (Tennis Court Replacement)	\$ 1,348,000 P,C	\$ 0	\$ 0
Soper Library Demolition	\$ 1,837,000 P	\$ 0	\$ 500,000 P
New Student Services			\$ 0
Facility Renewal Projects	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 5,000,000 P,C</u>	<u>\$ 5,000,000 P,C</u>
	\$42,523,000	\$29,185,000	\$29,685,000

KEY: C – Construction, E-Equipment, P-Planning

International Opportunities

On Thursday, April 19, 2012, Morgan was pleased to host the President of Hubei University, along with several of his colleagues. The delegation spent two days at Morgan, and the culmination was the signing of an official Memorandum of Understanding to enable students from Morgan to study at Hubei University, and vice versa. Needless to say, many students are very excited about this opportunity and will be moving forward immediately to take advantage of it.

President Wilson reported that Provost T. Joan Robinson is chairing the National HBCU Brazil Alliance, which is an outgrowth of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities' efforts to ensure that several thousand Brazilian students will study here in the U.S. on our campus. A number of Brazilian students are to start studying here at Morgan within the next year.

Fine and Performing Arts Season Par Excellence

The Spring 2012 semester has seen a level of excellence in theatrical performances and fine arts exhibits that speak very positively to the role that Morgan plays in preparing students for careers in these fields. This season the University staged an extraordinarily ambitious production of *Porgy and Bess*, which, based on all reviews, was spectacular. Kudos to Professor Vincent Stringer for his tenacity and vision, and to Dr. Eric Conway for his support of this outstanding production. Other productions worthy of merit include: *Jitney* under the direction of Professor Shirley Basfield Dunlap; and the Annual Spring Modern Dance Recital, under the leadership of Professor Iantha Tucker, who by the way, is the founder of dance here at Morgan, and who will be retiring from the University after 40 years of service. The Morgan State University Choir has been performing in numerous places; most recently at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts with *Sweet Honey in the Rock*, and will be holding its Spring Concert this Sunday at 4 p.m.

President Wilson congratulated all of the professors and students who are playing a very important role in ensuring that the arts here at Morgan are top shelf.

Finally, the Smithsonian Institution chose Morgan State University as the venue to unveil a stamp in its *Forever Series* in honor of William H. Johnson. The first-day-of-issue ceremony was held in the Murphy Fine Arts Center on April 11, 2012, and was attended by numerous dignitaries from the U.S. Postal Service, the Smithsonian Institution and throughout the art world.

On April 14, 2012, the James E. Lewis Museum opened a special exhibit depicting many of the works of William H. Johnson. This is a traveling exhibit, and I urge Board members and others to take in what is a fascinating display of artistic achievement before the exhibit leaves the Morgan campus.

National Board Membership

President Wilson stated that he has accepted an invitation to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Council on Education, the quintessential national association representing higher education in the U.S.

**Reports of Standing Committees**

**Academic & Student Affairs**

Dr. Gilliam presented the following action items for approval by the Board:

Recommendation for Student Regent 2012-2013

Ms. Karen N. Darkes is recommended by the Student Government Association (SGA) selection committee, comprised of several class senators and the SGA Vice President, to replace 2011-2012 Student Regent Andrea Carrington. Miss Darkes is a rising senior with a major in Political Science, College of Liberal Arts. She has a 3.37 cumulative grade point average, and she is a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey. Miss Darkes has been very active in student government, and is currently serving as Student Life Senate Committee Chair. She is also a member of the Morgan State University Choir.

It was **MOVED** by Regent Gilliam and **SECONDED** by Regent Griffin to approve the recommendation for Miss Karen N. Darkes as the 2012-2013 Student Regent. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Honorary Degree Recommendations

Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson

Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson is the most prominent educational leader. Always the pioneer and constantly on the cutting edge of change and progress, she has been both torchbearer and beacon-path-finder and pace-setter-in scientific research, in industry, in government and in academe. She is the 18<sup>th</sup> President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY and Hartford, CT,

the oldest technological university in the United States. Dr. Jackson holds a Ph.D. in theoretical elementary particle physics from M.I.T. and a S.B. in physics from M.I.T. Her research specialty is in theoretical condensed matter physics, especially layered systems, and the physics of opto-electronic materials.

Since 1999, Rensselaer President Shirley Ann Jackson has led an extraordinary transformation of the Institute with an ambitious strategic effort in which guided by her vision, Rensselaer is now home to the Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies, the Computational Center for Nanotechnology Innovations, the Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center, and the East Campus Athletic Village. Under her leadership, more than 230 new faculty members have been hired, research awards have doubled, and scholarships have increased. Her tenure also has been marked by innovations in curriculum, expansion of undergraduate research, and new award-winning student life initiatives.

It was MOVED by Regent Gilliam and SECONDED by Regent Griffin to approve the recommendation to award Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson an honorary degree. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Larry S. Gibson

Mr. Larry S. Gibson has served the City of Baltimore in several capacities. He is a commissioner of the city's Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, co-chairman of the Mayor's Commission on Thurgood Marshall's Elementary School, co-chairman of the Baltimore City Bicentennial Celebration, and served on the Board of School Commissioners. Mr. Gibson has been a political and social activist, representing those causes and those candidates that he thought would benefit society and the smaller constituencies. He researched and curated an exhibit documenting the contributions of Morgan State University students in the early civil rights movement. The exhibit documents and establishes Morgan students as the first in the nation to use peaceful sit-ins at local stores and restaurants as a means of protest against racial segregation. In a large part because of Mr. Gibson's efforts, the media began telling, for the first time, how Morgan students ignited the Civil Rights Movement here in Maryland with sit-ins at Read's Drug Stores, Northwood Theater and other businesses.

It was MOVED by Regent Gilliam and SECONDED by Regent Cummings to approve the recommendation to award Mr. Larry S. Gibson an honorary degree. THE MOTION CARRIED.



Ambassador Tebelelo Seretse Mazile

Her Excellency Tebelelo Seretse Mazile became Ambassador of Botswana to the United States on February 16, 2011. This is her first ambassadorial assignment. Ambassador Mazile earned the Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Morgan State University in 1978. She then earned the Master of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Cincinnati in 1980 and the Bachelor of Law from the University of Botswana in 1995. Before beginning her career in governmental service, Ambassador Mazile spent eleven years in the private sector. She served as Senior Research officer from 1978-1984 at the Bank of Botswana, and Finance Manager for BP Botswana (Pty) Ltd from 1984 to 1989. She has been a strong advocate for the University in Southern Africa. Since her appointment as Ambassador and has visited the campus of her alma mater and Baltimore City and expressed a strong desire in promoting the establishment of academic and scientific ties between Morgan and the Republic of Botswana's institutions of higher learning and with her insistence the MOU was signed on March 13, 2012 in the Republic of Botswana between Morgan State University, the Government of Botswana, the University of Botswana, Botswana International University for Science and Technology and the College of Agriculture.

It was **MOVED** by Regent Gilliam and **SECONDED** by Regent Malcom to approve the recommendation to award Ambassador Tebelelo Seretse Mazile an honorary degree. THE MOTION CARRIED.

**Finance and Facilities**

Regent Edmonds and the Finance and Facilities Committee, offered three items for approval by the Board.

Approval of Resolution for Bond Refinancing

The net present value savings that can be achieved is \$2.3 million by approving this bond refinancing. To enable this to occur as expeditiously as possible, while ensuring the Board is appropriately involved, the University is requesting approval of a resolution (attached) that will:

- Approve refinancing of the University's series 2001, 2003A and 2003B bonds;
- Establishment for the purpose of this bond issue, an approving Members Committee comprised of the:
  - Chairman of the Board
  - Vice Chairman of the Board
  - Chairman of the Finance and Facilities Committee

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- Authorize the President and other appropriate officers, subject to approval of the *Approving Members Committee*, to execute relevant documents deemed appropriate to complete the transaction.

It MOVED by Regent Edmonds and SECONDED by Regent Ellis to approve the Resolution for Bond Refinancing. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Restructuring Student Health Insurance

Ms. Tanya Rush, Acting Vice President for Student Affairs, provided the details on Restructuring Student Health Insurance, which was followed by a lengthy discussion.

In light of the recent Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that was signed into law in 2010, the amount of insurance students will be required to carry will increase significantly. The University's current mandatory insurance program for full-time undergraduate students has a \$25,000 maximum annual coverage for a nominal cost of \$110 per year. Morgan is the only institution within the State that has a mandatory insurance program that is funded through student fees. Unfortunately, based upon Federal legislation, for this upcoming fall the minimum coverage will be \$100,000 and \$500,000 the subsequent year. Based upon these changes, the University must change the way it will do business since it will not be feasible to include the anticipated rising cost of health insurance within the University's fee structure. Therefore, in the future, all full-time undergraduate students will have to provide documentation that they have insurance before registration can be completed. Coverage could be through their parent, guardian, medical assistance program or their own policy.

For those students who do not have insurance, the University is in the process of soliciting bids for insurance that students could obtain conveniently at a competitive price. Any full-time undergraduate student not providing proof of insurance by a specific date will be billed and included under a policy procured by the University.

Currently, the University Health Center provides a variety of services to our students and coordinates services through the students' health insurance. The Health Center budget is approximately \$567,000 per year. This operation is strained for resources and, as a result of the legislation, will require more individualized attention be provided to students to ensure they have appropriate coverage as well as ensure they take advantage of the expanded insurance coverage.

Considering all factors, Morgan State University is requesting that the \$110 health insurance fee for full-time undergraduate students for FY 2013 be adjusted as follows:

\$40	Reallocated to establish a Health Center fee
<u>\$70</u>	Eliminated, reducing the overall FY 2013 full-time undergraduate fees from
\$110	\$2,406 to \$2,336

The Health Center fee will be utilized to subsidize its operation to provide much needed clinical and administrative staff to better ensure students take advantage of the Health Center services as well as ensuring access to health care benefits provided through their health care plan, potentially without co-pay.

Ms. Rush expressed the importance of immediate Board action of the student health insurance, specifically, to achieve a affordable renewal rate. The Board was informed that the document had been reviewed by counsel. During the discussion, the Board inquired if there is an alternative to the plan on the table today, as well as how many of our students come in without insurance, and whether or not we should look for additional quotes. The Board requested written documentation to review on the Restructuring Student Health Insurance and decided that additional time to review the recommendation on Restructuring Student Health Insurance was needed.

It was MOVED by Regent Edmonds and SECONDED by Regent Griffin to table the recommendation on Restructuring Student Health Insurance and on the agenda for the June 7, 2012 Annual Retreat as an action item. THE MOTION CARRIED.

#### FY 2014 Capital Budget Request

The University will submit its FY 2014 Five-Year Capital Budget Request to the Department of Budget and Management on June 30, 2012. Detailed estimates have not yet been developed so these numbers are preliminary, but the projects identified are the ones for which we will be requesting funding. Based on preliminary estimates, the five-year request will total \$456.1 million of which \$69.9 million is for FY 2014 (Attachment 1).

All of the requested funding for FY 2014 is for ongoing/funded projects to include: construction funding for the new School of Business and connecting bridge (\$43,550,000), construction funds for the demolition of Soper and design funds for the construction of the new Student Support Services facility (\$9,375,000), design funds for the new Jenkins (\$1,250,000), and design and construction funding for Phase IV of the Utility Upgrade project (\$10,728,000).

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FY 2014 Request  
(\$ in millions)

Ongoing/Funded	<u>Phase</u>	<u>FY 2014 Request</u>	<u>Funded to Date</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
New School of Business Complex	C	43.5	26.1	78.7
Replacement Jenkins	P	1.3	4.9	63.0
New Student Support Services Bldg.	P,C	9.4	.5	72.3
Utility Upgrades – Phase IV	P,C	10.7	30.2	40.9
Facilities Renewal	P,C	<u>5.0</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>5.0</u>
Total		\$69.9	\$61.7	\$259.9

Key: C – Construction, E – Equipment, P – Planning

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

**Nominating Committee**

Regents Frieson, Griffin and Levitan, were appointed by Chairman Evans to serve on the Nominating Committee. The report filed by the committee indicated that the current officers of the Board were contacted to confirm their willingness to maintain their office, Mr. Evans, Chairman, Mr. Resnick, Vice Chairman and Rev. Draper, Secretary, for another two-year term and the officers responded positively. The Board discussed briefly proper notification to the full Board on the election of officers, as well as the election procedure, that is, whether or not the proper election procedure had been followed. Chairman Evans mentioned that the Board received notice concerning the election of officers during the February 7, 2012 Board meeting.

It was MOVED by Regent Levitan and SECONDED by Regent Griffin to approve the slate of officers to serve for the term of 2012 through 2014 and those officers are, Mr. Dallas R. Evans, Chairman, Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Vice Chairman and Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Secretary. Regent Mfume expressed a NO vote for the slate of officers. THE MOTION CARRIED.

In response to Student Regent Carrington question relating to customer service at the University, the President stated that we now have on board Ms. Shannon M. Dawkins, Manager, Customer Service Training and Professional Development, and she is currently providing services in

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that area. In fact, Ms. Dawkins is working along with Mr. Vollmer collecting information on food service, etc. Also, she will provide training in the area of customer service on the campus.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda Newson*

Linda Newson