

Public Session Minutes

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Kweisi Mfume at 12:40 p.m.

Present: Hon. Kweisi Mfume, Chairman, Regent; General (Ret.) Larry Ellis, Vice Chair, Regent; Hon. Tracey Parker-Warren, Secretary, Regent (2:30 p.m.); Ms. Swati Agrawal, Regent; Ms. Paityn Brooks, Student Regent; Rev. Dr. Harold Carter, Regent (4 p.m.); Dr. Burney Hollis, Regent; Ms. Emily Hunter, Regent; Dr. Shirley Malcom, Regent; Mr. Brian Pieninck, Regent; Mr. William Sherman, Regent; Ms. Shelonda Stokes, Regent; Mr. Carl Turnipseed, Regent; Mr. Winston Wilkinson, Regent; Dr. David Wilson, University President; Mr. Thomas Faulk, Principal Counsel for Morgan State University, Office of the Attorney General

ABSENT: Dr. Linda Gilliam, Regent

Minutes

The Chairman opened the floor for a motion to adopt the minutes of April 8, 2024. It was MOVED by Regent Stokes and SECONDED by Regent Wilkinson. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the Regents, university administration, and members of the public in attendance. The Chairman offered an overview of the agenda and stated that following the Public Session, the Board would convene in Closed Session to address the matters identified as such on the agenda.

Chairman Mfume thanked Regents for taking part in a few recent events since the last Board meeting to include: the Honors Convocation and Spring Choir Concert. He highlighted some upcoming events to include: Spring Commencement Exercises, Alumni Day Luncheon, campus tours for Regents, and the annual Board Retreat. The Chairman congratulated Regent Pieninck for receiving the 2024 Blue and Gold Impact Award, which recognizes a corporation or business that has created a culture of philanthropy. Regents were reminded to complete their financial disclosure statement, which was due on April 30th, if they had not already done so. Finally, on behalf of Regent Gilliam, chair of the Evaluation Committee, Regents as well as senior cabinet members and deans were reminded to complete the online 2023-2024 presidential evaluation survey during the period of May 13 – May 19th.

Chairman Mfume announced that U.S. Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi is expected to stop by late this afternoon. He extended an invitation to her while here in Maryland to tour the Francis Scott Key Bridge wreckage, which he was unable to attend due to the schedule conflict.

The Chairman recognized Regent Brooks for her service to the Board over the past year. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Mfume presented her with an award and thanked her for upholding a strong tradition of great students who go on to become great leaders. He then opened the floor to members of the Board for comments and observations.

Regent Stokes echoed the Chairman's sentiments and thanked Regent Brooks for her leadership and for adding value at the Board level while also delivering and maintaining in school.

Regent Agrawal extended appreciation to Regent Brooks for her diligence, insight and confidence. She stated that the Board will miss her.

Regent Hollis thanked Regent Brooks, on behalf of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, for her tremendous contributions to the Committee over the last academic year. She is a sound mind and voice on the Committee, and all of her work and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Dr. Wilson echoed all that was said. He stated that Regent Brooks is an extraordinary student who personifies excellence (one of Morgan's core values).

Regent Brooks expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the student representative on the Board of Regents. She thanked the Board for welcoming her with open arms and helping her to grow as a leader. It is a very unique position that has expanded her network and afforded her many opportunities.

The Chairman recognized Regent Hollis and announced that he has decided to retire and leave the Board of Regents after a distinguished and extremely helpful tenure, effective August 1, 2024. He stated that Regent Hollis will truly be missed by so many who have worked, learned, and admired him over the years. He added that he cannot think of a person who has given more to this institution, particularly in the last five decades, than Regent Hollis. He emphasized that Regent Hollis is truly a Morgan legend.

Dr. Wilson stated that he has had the distinct pleasure and honor of working with Regent Hollis for his entire tenure as President. Regent Hollis has an unapologetic, uncompromised standard of excellence that is on par with any administrator or scholar in higher education. He noted that it has been a highlight in his career to have been associated with Regent Hollis's model of excellence, his incredible love for Morgan and the extraordinary way in which he has given so much to our National Treasure. He extended congratulations on a stellar career.

Regent Sherman stated that Regent Hollis's attention to details is a model of excellence. His ability to synthesize and parcel out those things that are not needed while editing in those things that are critically needed is unprecedented. He added that he has nothing but respect and admiration for Regent Hollis.

Vice Chairman Ellis shared that he and Regent Hollis went to high school together and graduated in 1964. They both attended Morgan and graduated in 1968. Regent Hollis was very studious and finished second in their class. He thanked Regent Hollis for all that he has done for Morgan over the years.

Regent Agrawal extended appreciation to Regent Hollis for his leadership and insights, particularly as a new Board member. She stated that he is quiet, dignified and humble. She noted that we can only hope to fill a tiny fraction of his shoes.

Regent Wilkinson stated that he will miss Regent Hollis and enjoyed working with him. He noted Regent Hollis's playfulness, his ability to laugh at himself, his admiration for details, and his enjoyment of working with Board members and all of their different personalities.

Regent Hollis stated that it has been an unspeakable honor and privilege to have served on the Board of Regents of his alma mater. He has enjoyed every minute. He noted that we should not hesitate to call on him for any reason or circumstance, if needed.

Report of the President

Dr. Wilson provided a report to the Board covering some major developments that occurred at the University since the last meeting in February 2024. Those highlights include: (a) New Leadership – Dean of the Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management, New Associate Director of Internal Audit, SGA President and Vice President, and Mr. and Miss Morgan; (b) American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2024 Outstanding Book Award; (c) newly elected American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellows; (d) making history – first graduate of the Morgan/Purdue dual degree program; (e) Honors Convocation; (f) Spring Choir Concert; (g) preparations for Middle States reaccreditation; (h) creation of new position – Director of University Policies; (i) enrollment update; (j) additional investments in public safety; (k) American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAA&S) listening sessions to be held at Morgan (fall 2024); (l) upcoming events – Undergraduate Spring Commencement, MSU Choir off to Greece, Magnificent Marching Machine to perform in France, and Morgan in San Francisco this summer; and (m) congratulations to the Lady Bears softball team – MEAC softball champions.

The Chairman opened the floor for a motion to adopt the President's Report. It was **MOVED** by Regent Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Regent Stokes. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers

Regent Wilkinson began by recognizing Committee members – Regents Brooks and Carter. He reported that the call for Board Officer nominations went out on March 29, 2024. Based on feedback received, individuals nominated for the upcoming fiscal year include: Regent Kweisi Mfume as Chair, Regent Larry Ellis as Vice Chair, and Regent Tracey Parker-Warren as Secretary. He then opened the floor for discussion and/or additional nominations for consideration.

Chairman Mfume stated that he would like to nominate Regent Carl Turnipseed for the position of Secretary. Regent Wilkinson stated that Board members will need to cast their votes by secret ballot.

The Chairman announced a brief recess so that ballots could be prepared and distributed. The meeting would resume in public session in approximately 10 minutes, once all votes have been tallied.

The meeting went into recess at 2:10 p.m.

The Public Session of the Board of Regents meeting resumed at 2:25 p.m.

Following the nominations and tallying of votes, Regent Wilkinson announced that Regent Kweisi Mfume was elected as Chair, Regent Larry Ellis was elected as Vice Chair, and Regent Carl Turnipseed was elected as Secretary.

Report of the Standing Committees

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

In the absence Regent Gilliam (Committee Chair), Regent Hollis presented the report of the Committee. He highlighted the information items to include: (i) Athletics – Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) initiatives underway for student-athletes, an extended partnership with teamworks and influencer application, the launch of the Morgan State Local Exchange in the fall of 2024 (the Committee noted the need for financial literary counseling for athletes to ensure their compliance with internal revenue income-reporting rules), and national exposure and attention attained by various Morgan sports teams and staff; (ii) Academic Affairs – program changes (online modality for M.S. in Urban Transportation and M.S. in Hospitality Management), prestigious awards won by faculty administrators, faculty members selected as Fellows in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, budget training (deans, chairs and directors), use of newly developed annual faculty performance evaluation instrument, program accreditations (B.S. in Nutritional Science, M.A in Music, B.S. Elementary Teacher Education, and B.S. in Nursing), and participation in the 56th Annual National Association of Black Social Workers Conference by students, faculty and staff from the School of Social Work; (iii) Enrollment Management – national and local impacts of the FAFSA mishap and its affect on institutions throughout the country; (iv) Student Affairs – housing applications (slight downturn as of April compared to last year), renovations (Baldwin and Cummings Halls coming back on line), and the opening of Legacy Hall (bringing a total number of available beds to 5,200 in the fall); and (v) SGA – 2023-2024 accomplishments, modest proposal to increase student activity fee, and introduction of newly elected SGA officers for 2024-2025 (President Tamera Trimuel and Vice President MarKayla Wilson).

Regent Hollis stated that there were three items for action brought before the Committee.

- **Policy on Competency-Based Education and Prior Learning** – This policy was approved by the ASA Committee in 2016 (with a slightly different name), but approval by the full Board was not recorded in the minutes. The University is now proposing the policy under its slightly modified title, “competency-based education and prior learning.” The policy calls for the granting of credit for prior and experiential learning as demonstrated through work experience, professional training, military training, or prior learning that is assessed by evaluation methods, including but not limited to, portfolios, exams, workplace learning from industry certification and professional training and non-collegiate credit learning. No more than 50% of the credits toward graduation may be earned through competency-based education and prior learning. It was noted that the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) Committee recommends approval.

Chairman Mfume opened the floor for a motion to approve the Policy on Competency-Based Education and Prior Learning. It was MOVED by Regent Hollis and SECONDED by Regent Sherman. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- **Title Change: B.S. in Physical Education to B.S. in Sports Administration and Movement Education** – The proposed name change will bring a modern, comprehensive and more accurate reflection of the existing program in physical education, which encompasses a diverse range of career paths not reflected in the title “physical education.” The five current concentrations in physical education are: sports administration, recreation education, elementary and secondary education, dance, and dance education. The major also has a track in recreation and parks. This new title more clearly articulates the broad variety of careers and graduate study options related to sports and physical activity that are available to graduates, thereby facilitating a wider array of post-graduate employment and study opportunities. It was noted that the ASA Committee recommends approval.

Chairman Mfume opened the floor for a motion to approve the Title Change of B.S. in Sports Administration and Movement Education. It was MOVED by Regent Hollis and SECONDED by Regent Parker-Warren. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- **Proposed New Academic Program: Ph.D. in Advanced and Equitable Computing** – A year ago, Morgan submitted to MHEC a proposal for a Ph.D. in Advanced Computing, and it was challenged by other universities. This revised proposal for a Ph.D. in Advanced and Equitable Computing has been modified and given a more specific focus that makes it unique and significantly different from other doctoral programs in computing offered in Maryland. It is unique and distinctive in that no other university in Maryland offers a

doctoral program in advanced computing with a focus on Equitable AI and Quantum Cryptography and Algorithms that addresses cybersecurity challenges in the quantum/post quantum age. This proposed program, in addition to being a cross-disciplinary collaboration with the School of Engineering and the School of Business and Management, naturally buttresses and enhances the work of the existing state-funded Center for Equitable AI/ML Systems at Morgan, which is an important research feature that the other institutions do not have. In addition, this proposed program will close the equity gap in the computer space, where minorities with training at the doctoral level who can address inequities in advanced computing teaching and research are scarce. Finally, as reiterated by President Wilson, offering this program at Morgan will help the State achieve its goal of anticipating the future workforce and aligning college and university programs to accommodate it accordingly. It was noted that the ASA Committee recommends approval.

Chairman Mfume opened the floor for a motion to approve the Ph.D. in Advanced and Equitable Computing. It was MOVED by Regent Hollis and SECONDED by Regent Pieninck. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Finance and Facilities Committee

Regent Malcom echoed congratulations to the Board leadership upon their election. She indicated that she would also provide an abbreviated report, emphasizing aspects that were not covered by the President or Regent Hollis. She stated that the Committee received updates from (i) Facilities, Design and Construction Management – continued work on deferred maintenance and exceeding MBE targets for projects that were being undertaken; (ii) Research and Economic Development – continued growth in funding for research being received across the university (one aspect of the metrics critical for ascension to R-1 status; the other metric, in addition to reaching and maintaining the required threshold of research expenditures, is reaching and maintaining a level of doctoral degree production (it was noted that Morgan missed the target, a three-year rolling average of 70 degrees awarded, largely because of the fallout during the pandemic); (iii) Institutional Advancement – increased positive visibility, enhanced outreach to alums, work to increase the levels of alumni giving (though numbers of contributors have not declined, the amounts being contributed have); (iv) Enrollment Management – noted implications of the numbers reported on the University’s budget, including the mix of in-state and out-of-state students; and (v) Finance and Administration – revenues tracking above budgeted levels and expenses tracking below such levels. There was discussion and agreement on the need for a deeper review of trends and better understanding of the factors that affect doctoral degree production at Morgan, including the barriers and processes needed to support consistently high levels of doctoral degrees. The Committee received a presentation on the PEARL focused on the progress that has been achieved in increasing diversity among staff and students in this important research area. The Committee also looked at the implications of a recommended increase in tuition of 2% for FY 2026 (fall 2025) along with a recommendation for no change in fees but a review of the current fee structure and the elements subsumed under fees. The Committee was not asked to act on any changes, but indicated that, in the interest of transparency, the University wanted to report on the recommendations being discussed. In Closed Session, the Committee received an update on security as well as the current status/planning underway for student housing.

She stated that the Committee has one action item.

- **FY 2026 Capital Budget Request** – The five-year request totals \$626.4M of which \$117M is for 2026, and authorizes the President to adjust these numbers (since they are estimated amounts) and report back to the Board at its next scheduled meeting, if any changes are made. The request received approval by the Finance and Facilities Committee.

Regent Malcom commented that a discussion ensued about what is not in the request, specifically, the inadequacy of support for the new Science Building, and particularly the impact of this on the University’s strategic goals to achieve R-1 status. It was noted that STEM fields are an area of growth for Morgan. The proposed size/scope of the building is currently inadequate and delays in addressing this issue will hamper achievement of our STEM education and research goals.

Chairman Mfume opened the floor for a motion to approve the FY 2026 Capital Budget Request. It was MOVED by Regent Malcom and SECONDED by Regent Pieninck. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee

Regent Ellis stated that there were no items for action. In Closed Session, the Committee received updates from Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) and Internal Audit. He noted that the Committee requested that ERM be added to the Board retreat agenda scheduled for June, which was approved.

Report of the Executive Committee

The Chairman provided an update from the May 10, 2024 Executive Committee meeting. He stated that the meeting was informational in nature and there were no items for action.

New Business

There were no new business items brought forward for the consideration.

Chairman Mfume, President Wilson, members of the Board of Regents, and the university administration welcomed Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi. She shared stories about growing up in Baltimore and working with her fellow colleagues/friends in Congress – Kweisi Mfume and the late Elijah Cummings (who was also a member of the MSU Board of Regents). She briefly spoke about federal funding over the years (increasing from single digit to double digits in the millions) for research including money to HBCUs, and the importance of having a full array of intellectual opportunities along with research facilities. She thanked President Wilson for his extraordinary leadership on the national stage, adding that he has been a champion for HBCUs and Morgan State University, which bestowed an honorary degree upon her that she is very proud of. She emphasized that education is the key to everything to include upward mobility. She concluded by thanking university administrators for all they are doing to make opportunities available to students, their families, and to so many others.

Adjournment of the Public Session

Chairman Mfume announced that the Board of Regents would convene in Closed Session to consider items specifically exempted from public consideration under General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(1)(2)(7)(8) of the Open Meetings Act. In Closed Session, the Board of Regents will consider Honorary Degree and New Student Regent Recommendations, and receive updates on Litigation, EEO, the Maryland College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the OLA Audit. The Board may reconvene in Public Session at the conclusion of the Closed Session, if necessary.

After reading the citation into the record, the Chairman opened the floor for a motion to adjourn the Public Session to move into Closed Session. It was MOVED by Regent Wilkinson and SECONDED by Regent Stokes to adjourn the Public Session. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

The Public Session adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Honorary Degree Candidate Recommendation (Closed Session)

Chairman Mfume opened the floor for a motion to approve the Honorary Degree Candidate Recommendation. It was MOVED by Regent Parker-Warren and SECONDED by Regent Turnipseed. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

New Student Regent Recommendation – FY 2025 (Closed Session)

Chairman Mfume opened the floor for a motion to approve the New Student Regent Recommendation. It was MOVED by Regent Turnipseed and SECONDED by Regent Hollis. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

**MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
CITATION OF AUTHORITY FOR CLOSING A MEETING
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT
BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING**

Date: Monday, May 13, 2024

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Richardson Library
Conference Room

Motion to close meeting made by: Regent Wilkinson

Seconded by: Regent Stokes

Members voting in favor: All Regents in attendance

Opposed:

Abstaining:

Absent: Regent Gilliam

THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE THIS MEETING CAN BE FOUND AT (check all that apply):

General Provisions Article, § 3-305 (b)(1)(2)(7)(8):

(1) (i) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;

(2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business;

(3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto;

(4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State;

(5) To consider the investment of public funds;

___ (6) To consider the marketing of public securities;

(7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter;

(8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;

___ (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations;

___ (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans;

___ (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination;

___ (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;

___ (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter;

___ (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

___ (15) To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information, including information that is: 1. Related to passwords, personal identification numbers, access codes, encryption, or other components of the security system of a governmental entity; 2. Collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental entity to prevent, detect, or investigate criminal activity; or 3. Related to an assessment, made by or for a governmental entity or maintained by a governmental entity, of the vulnerability of a network to criminal activity; or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices.

General Provisions Article, § 3-103 (a):

___ (1) To carry out an administrative function;

___ (2) To carry out a judicial function;

___ (3) To carry out a quasi-judicial function.

FOR EACH CITATION CHECKED ABOVE, THE REASONS FOR CLOSING AND TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. To consider a Honorary Degree Candidate Recommendation.
2. To consider the New Student Regent Recommendation (FY 2025).
3. To receive a Litigation Update.
4. To receive an EEO Report.
5. To receive an update on the Maryland College of Osteopathic Medicine.
6. To receive an update on the OLA Audit.

THE BOARD MAY RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CLOSED SESSION IF NECESSARY TO TAKE ANY FINAL AND BINDING ACTION.

This statement is made by Kweisi Mfume
Chairman of the Board of Regents

SIGNATURE:



***** FOR USE IN MINUTES OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING: *****

TOPICS DISCUSSED AND ACTION(S) TAKEN (IF ANY):