

**Professional Staff Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 13, 2022**

**2:30 – 4:30 p.m. – Virtual**

**In Attendance:** [**Link**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1W3SwiPQiHC1EY-Y7VXXm2___m4XrBLGyrsUUU8kzgHE/edit#gid=522842090)

1. Call to Order
2. Approved January [Meeting Agenda](https://umbc.app.box.com/file/823234402560?s=noq94efdrgwz7qh2zbss6vv7m3m66p2j)
3. Approved December [Meeting Minutes](https://umbc.app.box.com/file/894086695427?s=351u41d1pk1be6tpwprtqcj1voukxdd1)

##### *Land Acknowledgement*

##### *UMBC was established upon the land of the Piscataway and Susquehannock peoples. Over time, citizens of many more Indigenous nations have come to reside in this region. We humbly offer our respect to all past, present, and future Indigenous people connected to this place.*

1. **RAC/Recreation Announcements**

Alea Burke, Assistant Director of Recreation-Fitness and Wellness

Joella Lubaszewski, Coordinator, Fitness and Wellness

Gary Wohlstetter, Sr. Associate Athletic Director, Physical Ed. & Rec.

* Hoping to offer 30 different fitness/wellness classes and 8 Intramurals this spring
* Every month there’s a different challenge with prizes!
* Youtube Channel has about 200 workout videos you can do at home
* The RAC has new fitness studios, weight room, indoor track, classrooms/dance rooms, and gyms
* Masks are required for all spaces in the RAC and fitness classes
* The best way to get up-to-date information about group fitness classes and the RAC in general is to follow the RAC on social media, look at their website, and follow them on myUMBC!

1. **Student Government Association (SGA) Presentation**

Joshua Forlotta Gray '22, President, SGA

B.A., Dance and Media and Communication Studies

Minor, Public Administration and Policy

Linehan Artist Scholar

* Structure of SGA: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches
* PSS-related bodies of work:
  + Staff Well-Being (fill current vacancies, increasing wages, mental health support)
  + Change the Wages – MCE (increase wages for inmates who produce university furniture)
  + Campus Transportation (increase bus routes, expanding hours)
  + Community Wellbeing – COVID (increase mask distribution sites, increased resources for UMBC alumni)
  + Civic Engagement (promoting voting and engagement during this election year)
* How can PSS support/collaborate with SGA?
  + [Feedback from break-out rooms](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Un5tdIyTVBUEjSCC4Yqv3Ux_BmRxrcySvOyRepP-lrQ/edit#gid=1140077416)
  + Regarding increasing staff wages and filling current vacancies, it may be more effective coming from a partnership with SGA
  + Shared Governance Newsletter
  + Need to create a foundation for partnership between SGA and PSS so we don’t feel like we’re “starting over” every year; difficult because SGA has such short terms
  + How can PSS support SGA like SGA is supporting us?

1. **Expressing Gratitude When Everything Might Feel Terrible**
   * Take some time to deep breathe and ground yourself
   * Think about a time you felt really appreciated
   * Think about a time someone really appreciated you
   * [Anonymous Form](file:///Users/chloeterrell/Downloads/a.%09https:/docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScA_xV7llgFe1AFEQhUQsYwe0TH97XNGqJRiNs5o-vVhW_5Dw/viewform) about flexible work
   * Using this content from the form to express gratitude to Leadership about continued flexible work
2. **Small Group Discussions**

How do we keep this culture shift moving forward so we’re continuing to support staff while communicating our gratitude to leadership?

* The Exec board will put these responses together and put together an action plan

1. [Senator Share Out](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tCICf1-VX3C1iZtGxbRfA8osj2NMksKkymOnvypiNms/edit#gid=0) - A gift they’ve received that made an impact on their life

* Cael – Subscription to a meditation program which got them through the pandemic!
* Faith – Received a four-piece luggage set (Barbie tote?) which she hated, but now she realizes how good and practical it was. Now she thinks abstractly and practically when gift giving!

1. Committee Reports
   * SOD – Thanks to everyone who donated stuff from their offices! SOD put together baskets and we will raffle them off soon
   * Faith - PMP process is being focused on to make it more collaborative (action plan)

1. **Community Notice Board//Open Forum**
   * N/A
2. Adjournment: 4:25pm