



**UNIVERSITY STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**  
[www.umaryland.edu/usga](http://www.umaryland.edu/usga)

**USGA Senate Meeting Agenda/Minutes [in red]**

**Date/Location: September 29th, 2021 / Zoom**

**Start Time: 5:33pm**

**End Time: 7:30pm**

**If you have a detailed report for your school, please email the USGA President!**

**Please rename yourself on Zoom with your First and Last name.**

**In the Zoom Chat, please write your:**

- **Name**
- **Email**
- **Primary/general/alternate senator position**  
**School/program/organization you are representing**

- I.** Approval of Minutes
  - A.** Motion to approve last meetings minutes
- II.** Induct New Senators
  - A.**
- III.** University Committees
  - A.** Need reps for these groups! Please let us know if you interested, and see the President's report for more information
  - B.** MHEC
    - 1.** Need representative (see President's report for description)
  - C.** USMSC
    - 1.** MSCAC/MaryPIRG Student Climate Action Coalition needs representation from UMB (see President's report)
    - 2.** Chancellor Perman will be speaking at the next meeting
  - D.** Diversity Advisory Council
    - 1.** Nothing to report
  - E.** Shuttle Committee
    - 1.** Need representative
    - 2.** Has only met once
      - a)** Once a month
      - b)** Always at noon
      - c)** On a Wednesday
    - 3.** Very important - shuttle was cancelled and the students and staff were

able to get the shuttle reinstated

4. Each student pays a transportation fee that goes towards the shuttle fund
  - a) Non-students will have to pay \$1.75 per trip since students pay for the shuttle through fees

F. Parking and Transportation Committee

1. Need representative
2. Email Aishwarya

G. Student Fees Committee

1. School of Nursing, the School of Social Work, School of Law, and Graduate School representation needed
  - a) Need a board of 7 members to be able to vote
2. Nothing to report aside from need of reps

H. Council for the Arts & Culture

1. Need rep?
  - a)

I. Sustainability Committee

1. Nothing to report
2. Let Aishwarya know if you are interested to join

IV. School Reports:

A. Graduate (5/6)

1. Nothing to report

B. Graduate Nursing (1/3)

1. Nothing to report

C. Undergraduate Nursing (1/5)

1. Nothing to report

D. Dentistry (4/4)

1. Nothing to report

E. Dental Hygiene (2/2)

1. Nothing to report

F. Law (3/4)

1. Nothing to report

G. Medical Research & Technology (1/2)

1. Currently only one senator
  - a) But election was Monday for another
  - b) Will notify when results are known

H. Medicine (2/4)

1. Waiting on other two to be elected
2. Nothing to report

I. Pharmacy (3/3)

1. First year senator was just elected

J. Physical Therapy (2/2)

1. Nothing to report

K. Social Work (2/6)

1. Social Work Student Government has two reps here tonight
2. Trying to get senators

V. Affiliated Groups Reports

- a. ISO (1/1)
    - i. Nothing to report
  - b. MSSA (1/1)
    - i. Upcoming event on October 8 (Friday) 6pm
      - 1. In-person at SMC Campus to introduce E Board members to other students
      - 2. Use as a recruitment tool
        - a. Food is still grab-and-go
    - ii. \*Make sure you go through the UMB Engaged Approval Process
    - iii. November Event
      - 1. Fall Banquet
    - iv. Scholars (PhD, Post-Docs, or ...)
      - 1. December
  - c. PJS (0/1)
  - d. USAD (0/1)
    - i. USAD still needs several members to have a full exec board
      - 1. Treasurer, USGA Rep, Secretary...
    - ii. Annual Pan-African festival, usually in November, moved now to Black History Month
      - 1. Let them know if you want to be a part of this committee!
      - 2.
  - e. GMB (0/1)
  - f. IA (1/1)
    - i. Planning to host 1st event on Oct 9th from 5-8pm
      - 1. Virtual meeting tomorrow (Sept 30th) to plan details
      - 2. Celebration festival (OFR Ready)
  - g. CSSA (1/1)
    - i. Looking for new senators
    - ii. Nothing to report
  - h. UMB HA (1/1)
    - i. Nothing to report
  - i. QSA (1/1)
    - i. QSA is having a welcome back party from 5-7pm at Conway Street Park Friday Oct. 1st
    - ii. [umb.qsa@gmail.com](mailto:umb.qsa@gmail.com) to RSVP
  - j. NAMI (1/1)
    - i. 3 people are reps
    - ii. NAMI leadership wants to share events
      - 1. Next week is mental illness awareness week
        - a. Healthy Selfie week
      - 2. Campaign #IwillListen
- ii. Officer Reports:
- A. President's report
    - 1. USGA Senate Retreat - Saturday, October 2nd from 10am-1pm

- a) [Agenda](#) (contains Zoom link)
  - b) It is required, however please let Kaila know if you have a prior conflict and on a case-by-case basis absences will be allowed
  - c) Requirement of retreat is to have a talk about professionalism
    - (1) Dr. Samantha Fuld
      - (a) Talk about professionalism and DEI
    - d) Will also have a talk about parliamentary procedure
2. Student representation needed for the following committees/organizations:
- a) **Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)** - "responsible for establishing statewide policies for Maryland public and private colleges and universities and for-profit career schools"
  - b) **Maryland Student Climate Action Coalition (MSCAC)**- main goal is to pass a carbon neutrality bill in Maryland, University System of Maryland-wide (any UMB student, not limited to senators)
  - c) **UMB Shuttle Committee** - student voices played a huge role when the shuttle was cancelled a few years ago, and from feedback from students/faculty/staff, the shuttle was reinstated.
  - d) **UMB Parking and Transportation Committee** - if you are interested in advocating for students regarding parking fees and options, this is a wonderful opportunity
  - e) **UMB Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAB)**- if you you are interested in being involved in decision making regarding the different fees that students are responsible for, this is a great way to voice your concerns and feedback (**SFAB representation is needed from School of Nursing, the School of Social Work, School of Law, and Graduate School** - not limited to senators)
  - f) **CITS New UMB Portal focus group** (any UMB Student, not limited to senators) - feedback on the development of a new Portal that will be used across campus as a landing page to access news, alerts, applications, school related systems, etc. (this committee does not need representation on USGA)
3. HSHSL Survey for their Strategic Planning
- a) Link to the survey:  
[https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9n7ACf3hP4B PqGa](https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9n7ACf3hP4B PqGa)
  - b) The survey should take about 10-15 minutes to complete.
  - c) Please complete the survey by October 22nd.
- B. Vice President's report:**
- 1. Information from Primary Senators about the election process at each school
    - a) Please email asap

2. Attendance is key
  - a) Must let me know about absence or tardiness
    - (1) Email me at [umb.usga.vicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:umb.usga.vicepresident@gmail.com)
  - b) Disseminate information to each school
  - c) Necessary for voting
  - d) If you know you will have consistent absences, you may want to consider becoming an alternate senator and having someone else be the general senator
    - (1) Do not want to chance losing a seat for your school
    - (2) Need to be able to get information back to your school's students in a timely manner to equitably keep them informed
- a) **READ CONSTITUTION FOR FULL DETAILS**

3. Committee Selection for each senator
  - a) Please respond to my email so that way you can join a committee that you would like to be on
  - b) Participation in a committee is a **REQUIRED** duty of a USGA senator
  - c) You will be assigned a committee if you do not answer the questionnaire or email me

C. Treasurer's report:

1. Programming Budget Balance
  - a) So far there have been two events
    - (1) Trip to the zoo
    - (2) Oriole's game
    - (3) \$17,130 as of right now
  - b) Will be further reported as it comes up
2. OFR Sessions
  - a) Attendance
    - (1) Only had 5 reps attend
  - b) *Please encourage student Orgs to apply for funding by directly contacting me (John Morgan) for OFR information*
    - (1) Contact me at [umb.usga.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:umb.usga.treasurer@gmail.com)
    - (2) The presentation is required
    - (3) Second funding cycle ends Oct 6
    - (4) Third funding cycle ends Nov 10
    - (5) Events must represent **4/7 UMB schools with no more than 80% attendees from one school**
    - (6) If your event is public then you must meet COVID guidelines

D. Secretary's report:

1. Nomination for Secretary: Joanna Ye

E. DEI Officer Report:

1. Listening tours have kicked off with outreach (stage 1)
  - a) Emailed all 7 schools

(1) Have not heard back from 4

(a) Law, Social Work, Dental, Graduate

- b) SOM has provided tentative dates
- c) SOP - November ideal for them
- d) SON will follow up
- e) Tours will be Oct 4 through Nov 19
- f) Talk to each school min. 1 time
- g) These tours are confidential, safe space, people facilitating will be trained to maintain these practices
- h) Tentatively, there will be a town hall to address any thoughts, ideas etc not already addressed/heard
- i) Equity committee is still open for those students who would like to join

(1) [umb.usga.equityofficers@gmail.com](mailto:umb.usga.equityofficers@gmail.com)

F. Programming Chair's report:

1. **The Orioles program** was a success. 96/150 students attended. I have all signed waivers and posted some pictures on the UMB instagram story make sure to follow us @umb\_usga for updates on programming
  - a) Things to consider: next time on the communications I'll state more explicitly that students need a physical ticket to enter in to the game and I won't give student the option to meet me outside for tickets (I stood outside for nearly 3 hours, about 54 students came)
2. **Costume party** at [Choptank](#) in Fells Point **OR** at the school of nursing yard - 10/31
  - a) Got a quote today from the manager there
  - b) Interested in using this space because its outdoors and spacious
  - c) Couldn't find a similarly situated black owned outdoor bar in Baltimore (if you know of one, please share!)
  - d) Capacity would likely be set at 100 and students would need to register through eventbrite
  - e) Person to incorporate a mask best into their costume gets prize; winner will be determined by senate E-Board
3. **Bengies Drive** in Theatre 11/4
  - a) Got a quote from the owner. Will discuss this number with Ms. Rice, Treasurer and President
  - b) Movie cannot be selected until the Monday before the viewing
  - c) We would be renting an entire screen, so it'd just be UMB students (Covid- Conscious!)
  - d) Potentially thinking about getting a bus for students who don't drive; I'd ask them to bring blankets and maybe lawn chairs? IDK (open to suggestions here please)
  - e) Because of how pricey this program is, students interested in attending would need to pay a deposit of some sort. We can discuss what is reasonable, but I'd need confirmation of

attendance and the best way to do that is to require students to get some “skin in the game”

4. **Potential mental health program:** meeting with a specialist sometime this week or next week to discuss programming ideas. Will update with new information as it becomes available
  - a) Date and time TBD
5. **UMB’s Got Talent 12/xx (TBD)**
  - a) Will begin planning in the middle of october.
  - b) Will likely be virtual again
  - c) Needs:
    - (1) Judges, host, talent
    - (2) Committee - faculty and staff senate, maybe some student senators if interested? (Please let me know, I’d love to have you on board)
    - (3) Date?: TBD (likely after finals and before christmas vacation)

**G. Parliamentarian’s report:**

1. Nothing to report until committee is up and running
  - a) Look through constitution to look at language for equity language and other details

**H. Webmaster’s report:**

1. Don’t yet have access to website, but will update with meeting info, etc ASAP
2. Posting forms to collect student feedback prior to meetings for guests speaking on specific topics: please let students at your school know they can submit questions and feedback via forms
3. Collecting Senator Bios: If you are concerns about having certain info about privacy, please indicate on form and will work to figure out additional solutions
4. Coordinated Calendar for USGA affiliated events

**I. Ms. Rice’s Report**

1. Welcome everyone to the new year for the new senators! Happy to have you here
2. For the committees that we need students reps for
  - a) Ask a peer in your school if they would like, they do not have to be a USGA senator
  - b) Especially need reps for Student Fees Committee
3. Looking forward to the speaker (Dr. Samantha Fuld) at the senate retreat this weekend
4. Want input on whether or not Oct 15th from 11:30-1:00pm to have the student organization fair
  - a) Virtual event
5. crice@umaryland.edu

**VI.** Old Business:

**VII.** New Business:

**A. Emilia Petrillo from the Student Counseling Center**

- 1.** Feel free to reach out and get information or tour
- 2.** Number of students utilizing during COVID not higher but still needed great work to connect students with resources in the community
- 3.** 8:30am to 5pm everyday
  - a)** Initial eval needs to be during that time
  - b)** Established students can schedule outside this time
  - c)** You can walk in for assistance promptly
    - (1)** Virtually walk in service
    - (a)** Tele talk today
      - (i)** Fill out form and submit
      - (ii)** Before noon to see after 1pm
    - (2)** simple/low key situation where you can see if you would like to get counseling
  - d)** Crisis support line goes to the center while open and then there is a group that answers regardless of office hours
- 4.** All information is confidential even if your school referred you
  - a)** You have to put in writing if you want information given to anyone
  - b)** 7 years after your last visit the information is deleted
- 5.** Mandated reporting when a person is a danger to themselves or others
- 6.** Some challenges from last year had to do with finding providers off campus
  - a)** Demand of mental health services has only increased
  - b)** Stayed at student counseling longer but did find providers
    - (1)** Sessions per student per period increased from 6 to 9 or 10
  - c)** Had to increase outreach and prevention
- 7.** Students from all schools visit
  - a)** Some schools have approximately the same utilization per semester
- 8.** Common situations that come in
  - a)** Most people may not need outside services
    - (1)** 10% of students present with mild to moderate symptoms
    - (2)** See students regardless of mental health status
      - (a)** Provide a bridge service and referral assistance
  - b)** Consultation is NOT a commitment to continue services but students are welcome to come and check it out
- 9.** Call in to schedule a phone triage
  - a)** 20-30 minute minute to get an idea what is going on, what needs are present, and
  - b)** Come in for initial eval, about 45 min long
    - (1)** With one of the counselors
    - (2)** Needs, history talked about
    - (3)** If more specialized care is needed, will be provided while looking students can still see counselors at the center
    - (4)** Let the center know if you have financial difficulties to



cover services in the community there are partnerships to help

**10.** Meet about every other week, no set session allotment but will assess with your provider

**11.** “Consultants to the community”

- a)** Students can call in if they are concerned about a friend
- b)** Can request a tele talk to have the conversation too
- c)** Crisis line can help you with a friend in crisis too
  - (1)** Can help you whatever time you need it
  - (2)** They will let the university know if there is something that they need to do

**B.** Dr. Alvarez and Dr. Deck to speak KN95 mandate and any other student concerns

**1.** Get your flu shot! Get with UMEC

- a)** Available in the SMC campus center on Wednesdays
- b)** HSHSL library is a location too

**2.** Booster shots for COVID for those who qualify are available at the student health center

- a)** As well as symptom free testing

**3.** KN95 policy

- a)** Those without vaccine must wear KN95 at all times
- b)** People in classes/gatherings must wear as well
- c)** Food and drinks cannot be provided unless individually wrapped

**4.** Space on the committee for student rep - (Deck)

**5.** Questions about policy:

- a)** Working on planning a student open ..... to talk about issues and concerns
- b)** Why KN95?
- c)** Are they safe?
- d)** Accessibility of masks (number of masks, ability to pay, etc)
- e)** Why is this policy in place?

**(1)** Good vaccination rate, location has steady positive rate since August

**(2)** Location - high risk → CDC guidelines to wear masks indoors

**(3)** Currently in steady 20 cases/100K in Baltimore city

**f)** Tool to give people to protect themselves from COVID with safety concerns of coming back to campus

**g)** Reason for KN95 is so that if someone in a class tests positive there should be the ability to maintain continuity in teaching in person without having to go remote while not having to quarantining other students (decreased risk of transmission) even though socially distancing

**h)** Difference between surgical masks and KN95. The cloth masks generally protect the other people, not the person who is wearing it.

- (1) KN95s are not certified by NIOSH(?) but are in other countries
  - (2)\*they do protect the wearer\*
- i) Currently for IN the classrooms, not necessarily for other areas of the school
  - (1) DEPENDS likely on school
  - (a) Double check
- j) If you are in a setting where you are uncomfortable or worried about transmission then you should wear a KN95
- k) Fit test is not happening, however those who need a smaller mask, there are some ordered and available
- l) How long can you wear?
  - (1) Generally wear for 40 hours in “non high stress situations”
  - (a) Not sweating, basic coverage
- m) Each school has been distributed masks and currently have 2/student
  - (1) Will have a second allocation for a total of 6 masks per student
- n) Will there be a place to buy them on campus?
  - (1) Look into having them in the book store
- o) Enforcement?
  - (1) So far have been enforced
  - (2) Ethics Point is where you would go for reporting
  - (a) General guidance is to work as a community on the matter
- p) Contact UMEC and their physicians if you are concerned about your usage
- q) Dr. Alvarez will look into the campus bookstore stocking facemasks
- r) Everyone on campus should be getting masks regardless of whether or not they are on campus
  - (1) Numbers were based on campus vaccination rates
- s) Dr. Laura Cathcart
  - (1) Will a return to remote learning be a consideration
  - (a) Maybe if there is an increase in breakthrough/severe cases or another variant
    - (i) Serious illness in vaccinated and breakthrough
    - (ii) Hope not to
- t) Current policies not reflected in Campus Groups?
  - (1) Gregory Brightbill is looking into this but feels it is present, just needs to make sure it is easily found
- u) University is aware of frustrations and is making these mandates in efforts to keep students safe and maintain current guidance under the CDC

- v) Can reach out to the COVID recovery email for questions or concerns
  - (1) To reach the COVID Recovery Task Force with questions or suggestions email: COVID-Recovery@umaryland.edu
  - (2) Reach out to Dr. Alvarez
- w) There will be a KN95 infographic for when and where you will have to wear a KN95
  - (1) Requirement really for classrooms
  - (2) Otherwise on a voluntary basis
- x) How can we address anxiety about illness?
  - (1) Dr. Deck, Dr. Alvarez, school representatives, student counseling center, etc.
- y) Feedback shared with senior leadership (the President's assistant (name?)) so that the university can help address these questions

### C. OFR Funding Presentation: Project Feast

1. Free Thanksgiving meal for those in the community (~30 years going)
  - a) Grown to include donations
2. Typically at Booker T. Washington School
3. There will be COVID safety training
4. No sit down area, food and donations will be individually packaged
5. Some logistics is still up in the air
  - a) Submitted to the SOM to get their approval
6. Everyone would be masked with KN95, as socially distanced as possible
7. USGA has been great in past years to add to the community effort that makes this event possible
8. About 125 volunteers from 2019 that represented 4/7 schools
  - a) Collecting donations
  - b) Cooking turkeys
  - c) Etc.
9. Even if day of event volunteer numbers are decreased, hope to have more people leading up to the event
10. Hope to give out COVID things (sanitizer, masks) and clothing
11. Money requested will cover primarily food and packaging materials, cooking materials and supplies
  - a) Asking for money for the building permit to be used for the cooking?
12. 800 meals were provided in 2019 and has a great impact on the community
13. Question asked: Can you ask about the community engagement center?

### VIII. Important Date:

- A. October 2nd - Virtual Senate Retreat
- B. October 6th Senate meeting - Dr. Forbes Berthoud will speak (new VP/CDEIO)
- C. Want to do a zoom poll about student concerns during meetings
  1. Do we have any issues that anyone would like to bring to the table?

