

**Morgan State University  
University Council General Body Meeting Agenda**

**Date:** September 04, 2025

**Time:** 11:00 am-1:00 pm

**Location:** Face-to-face: Earl S. Richardson Board Room, 4th Floor

Virtual Option Via Zoom Link

<https://morganstate.zoom.us/j/82559740916?pwd=QmAlAbnGBasVEzZfpP50Ix4g9aXNTx.1>

Meeting ID: 825 5974 0916

Passcode: 550935

**Leading with Our Values  
(LIIDER)**

- Leadership
- Innovation
- Integrity
- Diversity
- Excellence
- Respect

**Rules of Engagement**

- Work horizontally before working vertically.
- Always speak well of each other and the university.
- Observe the chain of command as appropriate.
- Stop placing blame.
- Protect confidences.
- Share ideas with each other.
- Practice civility and collegiality.
- Recognize that the university is first and that we are here for the students.

**I. Call to Order** [11:00 – 11:05 AM]

Dr. Samia Kirchner, UC Chair, welcomed attendees, and the meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

**II. Attendance and Quorum** [11:05-11:10 am]

The participants signed in, and the meeting met the quorum.

 UC Meeting Attendance - September 4, 2025 (Responses)

If your name was not recorded, please email Dr. Hyeon-Shic Shin, UC Secretary, at [hyeonshic.shin@morgan.edu](mailto:hyeonshic.shin@morgan.edu).

**III. Postpone Approval of 05/08/2025 Minutes.** [11:10 AM]

The May 2025 UC General Body Meeting Minutes will be approved at the October 2025 UC General Body Meeting.

**IV. Introduction: Representatives** [11:10-11:20 AM]

It was the first meeting for the 2025-2026 University Council. New and continuing representatives introduced themselves.

## V. 2024-2025 UC Report

[11:20-11:30 AM]

 UC Meeting 1 2025-09-04.pptx

Dr. Kirchner presented a summary of the 2024-2025 UC Standing Committees' and UC special committee's recommendations.

- A. Academic Affairs, Chairs: Dr. Zúñiga (SBM) and Dr. Iyiola (SCMNS)
  - Follow up on the Department Chair Policy initiative with the intention of proposing a meeting with all department chairs and collecting data.
  - Follow up on the improvement of the faculty evaluation instrument, process, and rebuttal process initiative.
- B. Athletics, Chair: Professor Robinson (SGJC)
  - Engage student leadership to form a student-led committee on improving student engagement.
  - Work with AVP Freeman-Patton to develop and present a State of the Athletics Department report.
- C. Budget and Finance, Chair: Dr. Kang Cheng (SBM)
  - Organize a university budget administrators summit and training for budget officers.
  - Follow up with ORA for the possibility of pre-award expenses accounts.
  - Seek faculty/staff feedback on the payroll automation initiative.
  - Seek feedback from the campus community regarding the impacts of program reduction.
- D. Physical Plant, Chair: Ms. Chevaun Whitman
  - Replace Physical Plant with Facilities Management in UC Bylaws.
  - Follow up with VP McCalla regarding campus signage, wayfinding, and directions.
  - Follow up on automatic opt-in into Mobile alerts (Omniaalerts).
- E. Research and Creative Work, Chair: Dr. Muhd. Sharif Uddin (SEUS)
  - Continue to support Moran's pursuit of R1 status.
  - Analyze the faculty PI survey data.
- F. Technology and Infrastructure, Chair: Dr. Jana Duckett (SGJC)
  - Follow up with Dr. Mendoza about a university-wide communication plan for the Tech purchasing guidelines.
  - Test the software license management tool.
  - Update the video script by DIT.
- G. University Professional Welfare, Chair: Professor Melissa Bellamy (SCHP)
  - Follow up on the positions previously approved for University Policy officers
  - Follow up on the Anti-Bullying Policy for staff/faculty, which has been moved forward to HR.
  - Follow up on the process of analyzing the exit survey.
- H. UC Constitution/Bylaws, Chair: Dr. Sharon Oliver-Whitehurst
  - Continue working on the proposed draft of the updated UC Constitution and Bylaws and present the revision with identified changes and rationale at a special UC meeting for voting.

## VI. Standing and Special Committee Formation

[11:30-40 AM]

Dr. Maxim Bushuev briefed on UC Standing Committees and Special Committees. He recommended the 2025-2026 committee continue work on at least one initiative of the past committee. Then, he emphasized that the participating UC meetings and committees are open to all university staff and faculty.

The seven standing committees and respective chairs are as follows.

- A. Academic and Student Affairs, Chair Name: Dr. Miguel Zúñiga (SBM)

- B. Athletic, Chair Name: Prof. Edward Robinson (SGJC)
- C. Budget and Finance, Chair Name: Ms. Shamon Shine-Lee (PASM)
- D. Physical Plant, Chair Name: Dr. Stephen Egarievw (SOE)
- E. Research and Creative Works, Chair Name: Dr. Olaniyi Iyiola (SCMNS)
- F. Technology and Communication Infrastructure, Chair Name: Ms.Oyinkansola Aladeokin (GSA - Student)
- G. University Professional Welfare, Chair Name: Dr. Sharlene Allen-Milton (SSW)

**VII. Discussion Items** [11:40-11:50 AM]

- A. Update on Policies Processed by UC on 11/21/2025  
 Dr. Bushuev gave a brief update on the three policies—Department Chair Policy, Graduate Assistantship and Fellowship Policy, and Reduced Teaching Load Policy—approved in the special UC meeting on November 21, 2024.  
  
 The Office of General Counsel provided feedback to President Wilson and Provost Yu. They will be sending it back to the committees. After addressing the feedback, a revised version will be reviewed by UC.
- B. Hazing Policy  
 Dr. Kirchner gave an update on the Hazing Policy. Dr. Williams, Interim VP for Student Affairs, requested expedited feedback on the expansion of the hazing definition in the Student Code of Conduct and clarifying the hazing policy based on the Office of General Counsel's recommendation. The policy was presented to the full board on August 12, and some feedback was collected and compiled, which was reported back to Dr. Williams.

**VIII. Remarks**

- A. Provost [11:50-12:10 PM]

 Provost UC Update August 2025.pptx

Status of the policies approved at the November 2025 UC special meeting

Provost Yu provided an update on the status of the three policies. Policy Governing Graduate Assistantships and Fellowships was reviewed by the Office of the General Counsel (OGC). The final version is with the OGC. The Policy on Department Chair Appointment, Responsibilities, and Evaluation, as well as the Policy on Reduced Teaching Load, were reviewed by the OGC and sent back to the respective committees for revision.

Enrollment

He then reported total enrollment at 11,744 students (9,757 undergraduates, 1,017 master's, and 930 doctoral students). The School of Business and Management remains the largest unit, followed by the College of Liberal Arts, the Schools of Community Health and Policy, and the School of Natural Sciences. Undergraduate growth was concentrated in a few programs, including cybersecurity and intelligence management, medical laboratory science, and sports administration. At the graduate level, enrollment gains were led by business administration, teaching, biomedical science, and data analytics, with redesigned one-year formats and targeted recruitment fueling growth. Doctoral enrollment has also grown significantly, increasing by 56 percent in two years.

Discussions

Dr. Hyeon-Shic Shin suggested inviting chairs, program directors, or deans from high-growth programs to share their innovations and successes, so that other departments could learn from their experiences. In response, Provost Yu noted his plans to present the enrollment data to deans and explore venues for sharing successful strategies. He suggested involving program directors and department chairs. Dr. Samia Kirchner indicated that the department chairs' workshops would be a relevant venue for analyzing and sharing success stories.

Dr. Kang Cheng questioned whether the Business School's total enrollment includes students with undeclared majors. While Dr. Yu's data showed that the business school has about 2,000 students, the breakdown by (undergraduate) program showed 154 accounting students and about 200 students enrolled in Information Systems. It is misleading to suggest that the other 1,700 students are enrolled in Business Administration, which is not accurate. (Note: The Business School has three departments—Accounting & Finance, Information Science & Systems, and Business Administration.). Provost Yu clarified that the number of university-wide undeclared majors is very small—less than 100. The reason the data doesn't add up is that the total enrollment includes both undergraduate and graduate enrollment. Dr. Bushuev provided a clarification that Dr. Yu's figures represent majors, not entire departments.

Dr. Geetika Jaiswal of the Department of Family & Consumer Sciences asked a question on offering undergraduate courses online. She pointed out that while some online options were available two years ago, now all courses are required to be taught in person. She noted that certain courses could be effectively offered online with support from the Center for Teaching Excellence, and flexibility would help retain more students.

Provost Yu responded that Academic Affairs supports expanding online course offerings and that respective programs must determine which courses are feasible for remote teaching.

President Wilson noted that the complexity of online learning for Morgan, as an HBCU, is a significant challenge. According to a study conducted by the Provost's office during the pandemic, students performed better in face-to-face settings. Reviewing more data or conducting a survey could provide some insights for developing a relevant policy.

Provost Yu added that survey data showed students, particularly freshmen, in in-person classes had much higher success rates than those in online classes. As a result, the university discourages first-year students from taking remote courses.

An attendee raised a question regarding whether the analysis of the survey data examined individual courses, such as the quality of instruction and use of active learning strategies, and their impacts on student success rates. Provost Yu responded that individual course-level analysis was not conducted.

B. President [12:10-12:30 PM]

President Wilson provided updates on major areas.

**Staff Evaluations and Ascendancy:** Staff evaluations are being redesigned with input from trainings and a new system to replace DocuSign, enabling clearer goal setting and career planning. For staff ascendancy, the university is seeking a consultant through an RFP to support career development, job description updates, and compensation planning. This initiative is also a presidential goal for the year.

Work is underway to develop a coordinated, university-wide awards program that will honor faculty and staff annually in a high-profile setting.

Dr. Wilson emphasized that governance is a non-linear and iterative process, involving legal review, that often requires policies to be returned for additional council input. This process, although slower, ensures that policies are thorough and widely supported.

Morgan has achieved record enrollment, expanded recruitment nationally and internationally, and enhanced branding. Research awards reached \$104 million, with patents and doctoral conferrals also at historic highs. Capital projects include a \$324 million science building, an \$88 million power plant, and multiple renovations.

**Policy Updates:** The Anti-Hazing Policy, required by federal law, was reviewed through shared governance and approved by the Board of Regents.

**Accreditation:** Preparing for the Middle States reaccreditation is now the university's top priority. The self-study is nearly complete, with recommendations including regular policy reviews. The site visit chair, Dr. Denise Rogers of Rutgers, will visit on October 21, and the whole team visit is scheduled for March 1–4.

Dr. Samia Kirchner raised a question: When a policy is under review, should current operations follow the anticipated updates or the existing policy? President Wilson clarified that any board-approved policy remains in effect until the Board of Regents formally changes or retires it.

Lastly, Dr. Wilson provided an update on two major shifts in medical school planning. First, the university has moved away from a for-profit affiliation model due to high tuition costs and investor profit motives, opting instead for a public, non-profit model similar to the University of Maryland. This approach is expected to reduce the proposed tuition by approximately half and eventually establish an endowment to further reduce costs. Second, Morgan will pursue an MD program rather than a DO program, aligning with institutions like Johns Hopkins.

The planning process is supported by a \$1.75 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which allows for two years of careful development. A Medical School Planning Committee has been formed, co-chaired by Dr. Kamangar and Dr. Vinnie John, with additional representatives to be added, including one from the School of Social Work and the UC chair. The vision is to create a medical school that stands out from others by integrating perspectives from social work and community health, thereby ensuring a broader, community-centered approach to medical education.

**IX. Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, October 2, 2025, 11 am

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting is adjourned at 12:31 pm.