



**TOWN-GOWN COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2018, 12:00 NOON  
BOARD ROOM, ACADEMIC COMMONS**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Eli Modlin, Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Govt. and Comm. Relations-Chair  
Amy Hasson, Chief of Staff, President's Office-Vice Chair  
Mary Angela Baker, Director, Center for Extended and Lifelong Learning  
Bill Burke, Director of Entrepreneurial Activities  
Paul Butler, Director of Communications & Community Outreach, WCPS  
Charles Dashiell, Campus Neighbor  
Parker DeWitt, Director of Civic Engagement, SGA  
Lawanda Dockins-Mills, Associate Dean of Students  
Mike Dunn, Executive Director, Greater Salisbury Committee (GSC)  
Sue Eagle, Assistant Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations  
Chrys Egan, President, Faculty Senate  
Don Fitzgerald, President, Wicomico County Board of Education  
Dane Foust, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management  
Julia Glanz, City Administrator, City of Salisbury  
Dave Gutoskey, Director, Housing & Residence Life  
Jack Heath, President, Salisbury City Council  
Winona Hocutt, Schumaker Pond Neighborhood  
Everett Howard, Director, Salisbury Housing & Community Development  
Stefanie Hurst, Chair, Staff Senate  
Chief Ed Lashley, University Police  
Kevin Lindsay, Neighborhood Relations Manager, City of Salisbury  
Andrew Martino, Dean, Honors College  
Devin Neil, President, SGA  
Karen Olmstead, Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Maarten Pereboom, Dean, Fulton School of Liberal Arts  
Catherine Raley, President, Graduate Student Council  
Valerie Randall-Lee, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs / Dean of Students  
Tony Sarbanes, Former Wicomico County Council Member  
Wallace Southerland, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs  
Ryan Weaver, Adjunct Faculty / Campus Neighbor  
Lee Whaley, Campus Neighbor  
George Whitehead, Campus Neighbor  
Bill Wyatt, Campus Neighbor  
Weston Young, Assistant Director of Administration, Wicomico County  
Gina Boobar, Office of the President

**GUESTS**

Gerry DiBartolo, Director of Athletics  
Chuck Wight, SU President

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Eli Modlin opened the meeting and welcomed the group. Everyone introduced themselves.

Eli asked for a moment of silence in memory of David MacLeod, a former member of the Town-Gown Council from 2007 to 2015, who passed away this past summer.

### **PRESIDENT CHUCK WIGHT**

- Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and participating on the council. Everyone has a stake in the relationship between the University and the community.
- Having community partnerships is important for the University. SU is investing in downtown Salisbury with the Downtown Art Galleries and the Entrepreneurship Center.

### **NEW SU WEBSITE – Sue Eagle**

- New SU website it is up and running. Encouraged everyone to browse through it.
- Designed to encourage people to come to campus. The University has great neighbors and SU wants to make sure the community feels welcome to campus. Easy to find information on all events happening at the University.
- The Discover SU section includes information on community engagement, campus history and community outreach.
- Designed to use as a recruitment tool as well; included new section, Our Region, under Discover SU, with information on Salisbury, Wicomico County and the Eastern Shore.
- Sue added that Sea Gull Century is Saturday, October 6. This year is the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the event. There are approx. 4100 registrants to date, ages 5 to 89. Online registration closes October 1. There are two route options - 100 miles and 60 miles. Julia Glanz said the City of Salisbury will be hosting a post-ride party downtown from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### **NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL (NFF) – Julia Glanz**

- Approx. 63,000 attendees over the three-day event.
- The National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) – the organization that produces the NFF - is very happy with it as a first year event. Over 90% of attendees said they would return.
- Only a couple of minor issues during the event; no major issues.
- Thanked SU for all their help; could not have done it without the University.
- Salisbury will be hosting an annual folk festival for the foreseeable future; after hosting the national event in 2018, 2019 and 2020, Salisbury will be hosting the Maryland Folk Festival.
- Eli added his thanks to all SU faculty, staff and students who volunteered and assisted with the event.

### **CHIPMAN CULTURAL CENTER – Ryan Weaver**

- A Freedom Sing-along led by Dr. John Wesley Wright will be on Wednesday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chipman Cultural Center, 325 Broad Street, Salisbury. Everyone is invited.
- The Chipman Center is the oldest standing African-American church on Delmarva. It occupies the site of a former open meadow where slaves gathered for worship. During the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in August, the second floor of the building was dedicated to Frederick Douglas, who visited the center in 1880. They are pushing to get the building on the National Historic Registry.

### **NEW TENNIS COURT POLICY – Gerry DiBartolo**

- University facilities are mainly for the use of students, faculty and staff. The University wants to extend the life of the tennis courts as long as possible. The primary goal is to maintain the quality of the courts. The courts had to be closed over the summer for necessary repairs and renovation.
- There was a lot of misuse when the courts first opened on East Campus – skateboards, bicycles, soccer, etc. – which damaged the surface of the courts.

- Also people were giving tennis lessons for pay but they didn't rent the court first. That is not permitted even for faculty, staff and students. The courts must first be rented through SU's Facilities Reservations department.
- The community can now purchase a membership to use the outdoor courts. SU already had memberships for the indoor courts. The membership includes an access card that provides access to the outdoor and indoor courts and includes a parking pass.
- The University has received minimal feedback from the community about the new policy. SU is willing to consider sponsorships and work with community groups who are not able to afford a membership.
- Julia Glanz said that there are only four public courts now in Salisbury. Open use of the SU tennis courts was important to the community. She wishes that the University had not implemented this new policy.
- Mike Dunn added that the City of Salisbury has a very rich tennis history; this new policy has hit those parties involved a bit hard.

#### **UPDATE ON FALL DOOR KNOCKING CAMPAIGN – Lawanda Dockins-Mills**

- The fall door knocking event, scheduled for August 21, was cancelled due to the threat of severe thunderstorms.
- Students and staff were still able to get out into the community. On September 19, 20 and 21, they reached 150 homes in Fruitland and 350 in Salisbury, plus all apartment complexes with SU students. They touched approx. 3000 to 3500 neighbors.
- They are very strategic in choosing locations. They look at areas where there have been past issues or challenges.
- Eli thanked the neighbors for contacting Lawanda when there is an issue.

#### **SU DOWNTOWN WORKING GROUP – Karen Olmstead**

- To sustain collaboration between the University and the City, the University is forming a work group, co-chaired by Karen Olmstead and Eli Modlin, to focus on creating academic opportunities in the downtown area.
- The work group will reach out to different parts of the City; they have already met with Mayor Day and Julia Glanz.
- Karen added that Delmarva Public Radio is alive and well. Their fund drive starts October 5. Looking toward the future, they are exploring a more regional approach, bolstering regional flair.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE – Eli Modlin**

- SU will be hosting an economic development and higher education event on Friday, October 26, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Guerrieri Academic Commons Assembly Hall.
- Secretary James Fielder from the Maryland Higher Education Commission; Secretary Kelly Schultz from Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation; and Secretary Michael Gill from the Maryland Department of Commerce will be speaking. Dr. Wight will give the feature address.
- Gina will email the group with details and registration information.
- Bill Burke added that this event is the same day as SU's Shore Hatchery entrepreneurship event. The public portion of Shore Hatchery begins at 1:30 p.m., immediately following this event.

## NEW BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

- Eli said that SU's new downtown spirit store, Simply Salisbury, which was open during the NFF, will now be open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays on a trial basis. It's in Salisbury University Downtown.
- Dane Foust said that Homecoming and Family Weekend is October 12 through 14. Many events will be held and everyone is invited to attend.
- Mike Dunn announced that the GSC is working with the Chamber of Commerce and PACE to host two candidate forums in the Wicomico Room of the Guerrieri Student Union - October 10 is for the Wicomico County Executive race, and October 16 is for the Maryland State Senate District 38 race.
- Mary Angela Baker distributed copies of the Fall 2018 Center for Extended and Lifelong Learning (CELL) brochure and encouraged everyone to browse all the offerings.
- Maarten Pereboom announced that Tim Junkin, author of *Bloodsworth: The True Story of the First Death Row Inmate Exonerated by DNA Evidence*, will be doing a presentation and discussion next Thursday, October 4 at 11 a.m. in the Guerrieri Academic Commons Assembly Hall. The community is invited. If you would like a copy of the book, contact him.

Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Recorded by: Gina Boobar