

# President's Advisory Team Minutes

August 16, 2022

## President's Advisory Team Members in attendance via Zoom:

Carolyn Lepre, President  
Humberto Aristizabal, Associate Vice President of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator  
Joe Benyish, Chair, Staff Senate  
Eric Berkheimer, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Capital Management  
Jason Curtin, Vice President, Advancement and External Affairs  
Gerard DiBartolo, Director, Athletics and Campus Recreation  
Lawanda Dockins-Mills, Interim Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs  
Susan Eagle, Associate Vice President of Marketing and Communications  
Kelly Fiala, Dean, College of Health and Human Services  
Dane Foust, Vice President, Student Affairs  
Clifton Griffin, Dean, Graduate Studies and Research  
Laurie Henry, Dean, Seidel School of Education  
Allen Koehler, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management  
Ken Kundell, Chief Information Officer  
Edwin Lashley, Chief, University Police  
Colleen Leon, Deputy Chief of Staff for Engagement  
Lisa Lepore, Associate Vice President for Human Resources  
Jennifer Martin, President, Faculty Senate  
Andrew Martino, Dean, Clarke Honors College  
Eli Modlin, Chief of Staff  
Karen Olmstead, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Kara Owens, Associate Vice President for Planning and Assessment  
Maarten Pereboom, Dean, Fulton School of Liberal Arts  
Valerie Randall-Lee, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students  
Jason Rhodes, Director, Public Relations and University Spokesperson  
Tim Robinson, Chair, Adjunct Faculty Caucus  
Michael Scott, Dean, Henson School of Science and Technology  
Eric Stewart, Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications  
Brian Stiegler, Assistant Provost for International Education  
Andrew Wilson, President, Student Government Association  
Christy Weer, Dean, Perdue School of Business  
Tracy Hajir, Assistant to the President

### 1. Welcoming and Opening Remarks – President Carolyn Lepre

- Dr. Lepre welcomed the group, and asked everyone to introduce themselves with their department and the length of time they have been at Salisbury University.
- Dr. Lepre stated that she was amazed at the collective number of years of service from this group. She feels very lucky as it shows a sense of commitment the campus community has to their work place. She hopes to be able to draw on this knowledge and experience by holding monthly meetings to discuss the direction we want to take the institution. This group's positive leadership has already been shown, judging by the great shape the institution is in currently. She noted that the group will think about how we want to build our agendas, and this meeting will give an opportunity to communicate a number of new initiatives already

created on the Executive Staff level and to get your feedback. She noted she hopes many ideas are brought forth.

- She stated that she is looking forward to scheduled one-on-one meetings in the coming weeks.
- Today is the “All Staff Lunch” – please encourage your staff to come out. It’s a great opportunity to reconnect with each other and celebrate that we are about to embark on another successful year.
- She stated that her first impression of SU was the overwhelming kindness and offers of help she received in her first weeks here. That kindness provides a sense of comfort, and hopefully this translates and contributes to the overall general atmosphere, creating a place where parents want to send their students.

## **2. Remote Work and Telework – Eli Modlin**

- Remote Work and Telework have been a topic of discussion since the institution has come back from the hybrid work environment following the pandemic. Special thanks go to Human Resources, the General Counsel office and the Attorney General’s Office for providing the Executive Staff with policies and guidelines on how each division should coordinate telework and remote work among their work staff.
- Approvals are still required at the vice-presidential level, and more information and guidance will be available in the next week. This Presidential Advisory Team will also serve as a forum for providing feedback on how those agreements and guidelines are working, as we try to maintain a strong in-person atmosphere and still remain flexible for our work force.

## **3. COVID-19 Updates – Eli Modlin**

- Eli provided an update on new guidelines for the fall semester.
  - a. Last week, the CDC provided an update on guidance for the upcoming year. The University Health Team met last week and with the national movement towards the endemic phase of COVID-19, we are moving toward more personal responsibility, with the objective of keeping the campus as safe as possible and providing resources to our employees and students.
  - b. Cases will be handled on a more individual basis. A person who tests positive will be required to go into isolation. There will be testing requirements for returning to campus.
  - c. Quarantine requirements have been lowered, but require a “Day Five” test.
  - d. We are encouraging mask wearing in close quarters. Free masks are available in several locations, including Dean’s offices and upon request from Campus Health. For N95 masks, a fitting appointment is required through Campus Health.
  - e. SU will continue to offer free testing. Please contact Campus Health.

- f. Salisbury University is still providing free Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, with an appointment. Please check the website <https://www.salisbury.edu/coronavirus> for availability of appointments.
- g. Campus health has moved out of the Great Hall and is now located in Blackwell Hall with an entrance located in the back.
- h. An update was provided on the University's response to the Monkeypox virus. Student Health Services will coordinate any communication to the campus community. Student Affairs continues to meet to discuss the latest information and provide the campus with any updates.
- i. Dr. Olmstead will also address any concerns and provide updates at the Academic Affairs Town Hall scheduled for later today. Rosters with color indicators will be used again this semester.

#### 4. Building Access Updates

- o An update was provided concerning building access on the main campus. Beginning with the fall semester, all buildings will require Gull Card access. The exception will be the front door of Holloway Hall and the Commons Building. A visitor station will be placed at the front entrance of Holloway Hall. More information will be provided soon, including a map of door closure information.
  - a. Information Technology is working on a system for visitors to include providing a temporary access card for the building they are visiting. Drop off boxes will be provided to return the cards.
  - b. Doors to buildings hosting a cultural or educational event will be opened to the public covering the time of the event. If there are any problems or issues involving access, an email address will be created to address these in a timely fashion.
  - c. Signage will be put around campus with open hours for building access and will also state when a Gull Card is necessary. Students and employees will have access to every building during regular hours.
  - d. It was noted that the perimeter buildings will continue with their current locked door policies and are not included in this update.
  - e. It was noted that many staff and faculty have a strong sentiment about safety. At some point it would be advised to assess the effectiveness of this policy. Visitor's experiences are important to note, especially if they print their visitor parking pass from the website and may not encounter a check-in station.
  - f. A concern was raised about access to the Perdue Museum, and the Perdue School in general would like to have it available to the public. Their programs are successful because of the involvement of the community. There has been some discussion about using a remote entrance device in the future. More discussion will need to be held to address specific concerns. It was noted that Salisbury University understands the commitment to the local community and values the concept of being a college campus in a college town.

- g.** As this policy is implemented this semester, suggestions and feedback are valued and welcomed, and improvements can be made. Challenges are inevitable, and changes will be evaluated in an effort to balance safety and ease of access. This forum is a great place to have these discussions and hear concerns.
- h.** Chief Lashley discussed the on-going efforts to assure campus safety. Salisbury University police have restructured their website and have provided information on what to do in different types of emergencies. Campus community members are encouraged to visit the website and view the information: <https://www.salisbury.edu/police/emergency>. Chief Lashley is continuously looking for improved, user-friendly trainings, including versions with a virtual type format or live stream. SU police are also in constant contact with their law enforcement allies. Chief Lashley is evaluating how we communicate messages out to the campus community and is working with Public Relations on social media venues. Additionally, there is a push for the “See Something, Say Something” campaign.

**5. Office of Diversity and Inclusion Updates – Eli Modlin**

- o** Working on search for a Director of Multicultural Affairs and for a Program Administrative Specialist.
- a.** The Director position will focus on expanding the Powerful Connections program. This program brings students of diverse backgrounds to campus a week early and connects them with mentors and resources to help them be more successful. The goal is to expand the program to include transfer students in the spring semester and to include students who have not signed up for the program over the summer. Currently 49 students are registered for the program this semester. This year the President’s Office covered any financial needs on a case-by-case basis using available student funding from the Foundation.
- b.** The University has purchased a Diversity Training package including an in-person training component. This will be for staff and faculty, campus leaders and student leaders. More information is forthcoming.
- c.** Searches for the Assistant Director positions, after two failed searches, have been placed on hold until after the Director position has been filled. Vaughn White will stay on a little longer.

**6. Around the Table**

- o** Eli recognized Lawanda Dockins-Mills as a new member of the group. She will be helping with several areas in the Student Affairs Division.

**7. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.**