Agenda for iSchool Assembly
Friday, September 6, 2019 - 9:30 a.m.
Edward St. John Building, Room 2208

Preliminaries
- Call to order
- Review and approval of minutes from May:
  - Motion: Golbeck
  - Second: Kules

Assembly Items
- Guest speaker, Dr. Brooke Liu, ADVANCE Professor
- Dean’s Update [Keith]
  - New faculty, staff, and student reps
  - New budget model at University
    - All 3 master’s programs are now entrepreneurial
  - New committees:
    - CADM committee
    - Development committee
  - New hires
    - TT - 3 searches
    - PT - 2 searches for 4-5 positions
- Guest Speaker: New Dean of Libraries Dr. Adriene Lim
  - Spoke about the importance of information science in creating a workforce that adjusts to and moves forward the influences between technology and people
  - The faculty librarians at the library do research and share practices that improve the impact of the Libraries
  - We need people who understand social justice and the ethics of information and how those apply to the access and preservation of knowledge
  - Welcomes chances to explore partnerships between the iSchool and Libraries to improve the field, create new models, disrupt our ways of thinking
- Facilities Update [Dave]
  - We now occupy new space in Hornbake basement
  - Dave & Cecilia will lead periodic tours for those who want to see the new space
  - The second and fourth floors will be renovated, but there’s no specific timetable or budget yet.
  - Lots of improvements but lots of disruption in our future, moving people around during renovations
- New Major Proposal [Wayne]
  - New major under development: Information Design (possibly as BA)
  - Committee’s charge: Identify gaps in the curricula at UMD and other iSchools
- A home for students from the Living Learning program
- Complements BSIS
- Ability to frame problems, design solutions, and realize solutions in real settings
  - Preliminary ideas were discussed for courses that might fit into this program
    - Please keep your ideas coming to the committee members
  - Timeline:
    - Fall ’19 - Program & curriculum
    - Will update Assembly in December
    - Spring ‘20 - Engagement & approval process
    - Fall ‘20 - Pilot key courses, soft launch
- Committee members: Caro, Joel, Kate, Dan, Vedat, Wayne
  - Admin Update [Melekte, Kibbi, and Daisy]
    - We’ve launched a new internal Web site
    - [Internal.ischool.umd.edu](http://internal.ischool.umd.edu)
      - Replaces information previously found under Faculty & Staff resources
    - Reminder about Travel Approval
      - Forms and guidelines are available at [internal.ischool.umd.edu](http://internal.ischool.umd.edu)
      - TAR - should be submitted 2 weeks prior to travel
      - Travel Expense form needs to be completed to itemize expenses you want to be reimbursed for
      - If any reimbursement is needed, Daisy will need the social security number of the traveler (including visitors, students, etc.)
    - Requests for J-1 visitors: These take at least 4 months to process. 6 is preferred
      - J-1 are short-term visitors from other countries
    - Please start using the ischool HR email address: [ischoolhr@umd.edu](mailto:ischoolhr@umd.edu)
      - Payroll, benefits, tuition remission, J-1 requests, etc.
    - Please submit your survey responses with ideas for improving trust
  - Nominations for Assembly secretary [Katy]
    - Candidate Beth St. Jean
      - Motion to elect Beth St. Jean as Assembly Secretary: Punzalan, seconded by Golbeck.
      - Motion passed unanimously with no “nays” and no abstentions
  - 11:00 Guest speaker, Dr. Georgina Dodge, Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion
    - Being in higher education, we are seen in the media as a test case or microcosm for issues that are facing our nation
    - Our campus is very decentralized. The same conversations and efforts are being duplicated in multiple places. We need to pool our talent
    - Diversity, equity, and inclusion is important to every single person, every member of every group
    - Hearing from students of pretty harrowing experiences, things that instructors say or do that offends. We need to be able to talk about student feedback and find solutions
A primary problem she’s working with is communication

- Information is power
- Access to information is not equal for everyone
- Information can be hoarded
- We need to talk more about transparency in order to create a culture of belonging

Numbers of racial minority students was increasing steadily until 5 years ago. Big decline last year in number of incoming black students, but this year there has been a recovery

Let’s think about our own biases and assumptions that we make based on identity. Awareness is essential to ameliorating your expressions of discomfort or favoritism to different identities and how people are receiving you.

Wants to establish NCBI chapter at UMD (National Coalition Building Institute), engender better relationships between faculty and staff

Diversity is not just for people who are “diverse”

**Announcements**

- Susan Winter: RIG (research improvement grant) application deadline coming September 15
- Doug Oard: Faculty must sign off on their time sheets every two weeks
- Gregg Vanderheiden: Morphic is being installed on computers at the University Libraries
- Katrina Fenlon: MITH’s 20th birthday party is today from 12-4
- Jeff Waters: Please refer all student services questions and requests directly to Jeff while the new advisors are being trained
- Bill Kules: If you have or know of opportunities in external organizations for iSchool student projects, please share these connections with Bill Kules and Mary Kendig for the iConsultancy

Adjourn

Motion: Diker
Second: Punzalan

Naemul Hassan, Susan Winter, Emily Daquisto, Jeff Waters, Nicole Pietrucha, Morgan Adle, Michelle Simon, Dustin Smith, Cecilia Penn-Diallo, Hernisa Kacorri, Ricky Punzalan, Chris Antoun, Luis Cortes, Ana Ndumu