

University Senate
December 11, 2008

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 78

Call to Order

The Senate Chair Holum called the meeting to order at 3:21 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Holum asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 16, 2008 meeting. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Chair Holum reminded the Senate that the November meeting was canceled because of a lack of business but reassured them that the committees were hard at work and that the spring semester will be very busy.

Post-Tenure Review Task Force

Chair Holum reported that they have nearly completed their work. Their report is being revised and will informally be vetted by the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Senate Executive Committee before it is submitted to the Senate. He stated that there will mostly likely be an opportunity for members of the campus community to comment on the report and that the final version would be brought to the Senate in the middle of the spring.

General Education Task Force

Chair Holum stated that they hope to have a Chair in place soon and will begin work in the spring.

Elections Update

Chair Holum stated that the staff elections were going exceedingly well and participation of candidates running as well as those voting has increased significantly through the use of the new electronic system.

Approval of Nominations Committee Slate 2009 (Action)

Senate Chair Holum gave an overview of the charge of the committee and announced the slate of new members for the Nominations Committee which was submitted by the Committee on Committees. He opened the floor to any further nominations. Seeing none, he asked if there were any objections to approving the slate as submitted.

Hearing none, he called for a vote of the Senate. The result was 0 No, 1 abstention and the majority Yes. **The motion to approve the slate as submitted passed.**

Report of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC)

Chair Holum reported that the SEC has been working with President Mote to develop a furlough plan and discuss the budget.

Chair Holum introduced President Mote to give the Senate an overview and answer any questions that the Senate may have about the furloughs and recent budget cuts.

President Mote thanked the SEC for their willingness to work with him during the difficult budget cut and furlough period and the Senate as a whole for their consistent support.

President Mote explained that the Governor's budget plan was leaked to the Press. He also stated that the current period is when the Legislature makes adjustments to the FY09 budget and makes a proposal for the FY10 budget. He explained that he has been working with the SEC to deal with the budget issues. We are still waiting to here from Annapolis on exact numbers for budget cuts and furloughs. He expects that we will get an instruction on the exact amount of furloughs by next week. He will then develop a plan, discuss it with the Unions and send it to the Board of Regents (BOR) for approval. Each campus in the System will develop their plan and the BOR must empower each one. He also stated that they may consider if it is possible to close the University for a campus-wide furlough day but there may not be enough time to implement one on December 24th and January 20th is a day that involves too many on-campus activities and services. President Mote stated that he plans to continue to work with the SEC as we get more information and move forward. He explained that we should remember that this is a nationwide crisis so we are all working together to make up for the deficit. The FY10 budget proposal projects revenue 1 ½ years in advance. We expect \$35M-\$40M to be recovered in furloughs state-wide. The Governor's office believes the budget shortfall is \$200M but others believe it to be much greater. We should expect that FY10 budget projections will be much more conservative so we can probably expect a reduction in FY10. The reality is that this is not the end. We need to be prepared for this, keep our spirits up and move forward.

Q&A

Senator Zlatic, Undergraduate, College of Arts & Humanities inquired about the recent forum for budget suggestions on the University System and if something like that would be possible for our campus.

President Mote responded that she was referring to the Bohanan Commission which is a body that was created to develop a funding model for higher education in the State of Maryland but is not directly related to current budget issues. This is a 10 year plan which hopes to boost funding by \$700M.

Senator Zuckerman, Undergraduate, Behavioral & Social Sciences inquired about whether faculty and staff were allowed to work on furlough days instead of being forced to stay home.

President Mote responded that we should not force anyone to work on furlough days but they can come in and work if they choose.

Chair Holum thanked President Mote for his candor.

Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee (PCC)
Proposal to rename the B.S. in Logistics, Transportation and Supply Chain Management as the B.S. in Supply Chain Management
Senate Document Number 08-09-10 (Action)

Carmen Balthrop, Chair of the Senate PCC Committee presented the Committee's report. The proposal was to change the program name to align more closely with the contemporary terminology in the field.

Chair Holum asked if there was discussion. Hearing no discussion, Chair Holum called for a vote. The result was 0 No, 1 abstention and the majority Yes. **The motion to approve the proposal as submitted passed.**

Special Order of the Day

Dr. Linda M. Clement, Vice President for Student Affairs
Student Alcohol Use at UMCP: Issues and Solutions

Chair Holum gave an overview of the issue and introduced Vice President Clement.

Vice President Clement thanked Chair Holum and the SEC for inviting her. She explained that alcohol misuse is an "evergreen" issue.

Context

Baseline statistics of alcohol use include that 50% of 8th graders and 4 out of 5 high school seniors have tried alcohol. 30% of high school seniors are already engaging in binge drinking. The gender gap has closed in that 9th grade girls drink at the same rate as 8th grade boys. It is clear that the behavior is already in place when students come to the University.

Survey of UM Students

Our own students' experiences mirror national numbers: 16% don't drink at all, 68% drink occasionally and 16% (5,400) drink frequently. 36% of frequent drinkers are binge drinkers.

Results of Excessive Drinking

14% are physically injured, 3% physically injure someone else, 3% are involved in a fight, 23% report doing something they regret, 24% forget what they had done, 10% had unprotected sex and .3% was sexually assaulted.

On-Campus Statistics

There are a total of 11,000 students on campus. There are 450 cases of underage drinking and 25-30 of these are transports for students with alcohol poisoning. 1/3 of transports are the result of students who called 911, 1/3 are called in by Residence Hall Assistants, 1/3 are students discovered by campus staff.

Follow-Up on Underage Drinking

We meet with students individually and with parents before returning to the Residence Halls.

Resources & Campus Programs

Harm is a real concern and drives our programs and services. We invite incoming freshman to complete alcohol.edu (gives baseline info on alcohol) 90% participate and then participate again 6 weeks into their first year. Parents also participate in a separate alcohol.edu program to help them open a dialogue with their kids. The University has also created campaigns to recognize harm and responsible behavior. We also provide alcohol-free activities: All-Niter at the Union, midnight movies at the Hoff, Late-Night at CRC until 2am; Healthy Terps: Program in the Health Center uses evidenced intervention including role-play and 1 on 1 counseling so students understand normative behavior and we also have a six week substance abuse program and one on one counseling.

Amethyst Initiative

President Mote agreed to look at alcohol use and whether 21 was the appropriate drinking age. The University held a forum on 10/30/08. 100s participated and the forum included a student panel. The forum will continue through the Residence Hall Association. The Alcohol Coalition will look at how to coordinate activities, take output of forum and infuse it into our actions.

Good Samaritan Policy

Policy dictates that when a student seeks help for alcohol related health issues, they will not have to fear the criminal consequences of underage drinking. The two sides of this issue are that either it will encourage people to seek help or it will encourage bad behavior. There is no empirical evidence on whether a policy of this nature increases that rate of students seeking help. One specific study by a faculty member in our School of Public Health showed that on average students said that it was "somewhat acceptable" to get help. This shows that we have not gotten the message out that students should seek help. Vice President Clement encouraged further discussion on the topic because it is a complex issue.

Q&A

Senator Schumacher, Faculty, Architecture, Planning, and Preservation asked what is considered "frequently" in terms of drinking.

Clement responded that frequently was 10 times or more in a month.

Schumacher also asked if we are allowed to consult with the students' parents or does the privacy issue get in the way of that?

Clement responded that the privacy laws give us the authority to contact parents if there is imminent danger such as in cases where a medical transport is needed.

Senator Tervalá, Undergraduate, Arts and Humanities asked if Clement was aware of the study by Cornell University.

Clement stated that they are still pondering if the increase in 911 calls was because students were more aware, there was better advertising, or students felt more freedom to call.

Tervalá also asked for Clement's thoughts on the SGA elections results where students said that 94 percent would feel more comfortable calling 911 if they were in danger if there was a Medical Amnesty Policy.

Clement responded that she was impressed, and that a coalition of students on campus was in support of this policy.

Senator Gulick, Faculty, College of Computer & Mathematical Sciences asked what we are doing for non-drinkers affected by drinking students.

Clement stated that we are setting community standards. She said that it is an unfortunate situation and we should never give up on the issue.

Gulick also stated that maybe we should have stricter regulations for violations.

Clement stated that we try to work within a progressive discipline and educational environment in dealing with these types of issues.

Senator Docherty, Undergraduate, Robert H. Smith School of Business inquired what conclusions were drawn from forum on 10/30/08 and whether there were any other concrete policy changes as a result.

Clement stated that the Alcohol Coalition is looking at feedback from the forum but the biggest outcome is that students want to continue the dialogue. She stated that they are still working on implementing information learned from the forum and probably will continue to do so over the next couple years.

Chair Holum thanked Vice President Clement.

New Business

Hearing no further business, Senate Chair Holum adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.