University Senate

December 5, 2012

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 100

Call to Order

Senate Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Smith asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the November 1, 2012 meeting. Hearing none she declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Senate Elections
Smith announced that the Senate Office would begin the candidacy/election process for all staff, student, and single-member constituency senators for 2013-2014 on January 22, 2013. She encouraged those in attendance to run for senator and indicated that details about the timeline and process could be found under the "Elections" tab on the Senate website.

Spring 2013 Senate Meetings
Smith reminded the Senate that the first Senate meeting of the spring semester would be on February 14, 2013. The new Provost, Mary Ann Rankin, will make a presentation at that meeting. She asked senators to mark all of the spring 2013 senate meeting dates on your calendar. We expect to have a very busy semester with much of the work that is currently in our various committees coming to the Senate. You can review pending items on the Senate website under the legislation tab.

Special Order – President Wallace D. Loh, Discussion of the University's Move to the Big 10

Smith expressed her gratitude to the President for making time to meet with the campus community on this important issue and then welcomed President Loh, who gave a brief overview and took questions and input regarding the University's recent move to the Big 10 Conference.

President Loh stated that the University's integration with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) and the Big 10 is more than a change of athletic conference; it is a comprehensive integration that involves athletics, academics, finances, administration, and procurement with the Big 10 institutions. President

Loh thanked Provost Rankin for spearheading the effort to get our University approved to be a part of the CIC as of July 1 2013, one year ahead of our official move to the Big 10. Loh spoke about the advantages of joining the CIC, including shared library acquisitions, purchasing power, the possibility of joining the Google digitization project, access to study abroad programs in 70 different countries, summer research programs for undergraduates, online courses, research fellowships for graduate students, research collaborations for faculty, and administrative workshops. The CIC is a "super-university," which can leverage resources to get discounted rates and increased opportunities.

The President opened the floor for questions.

Speaker: Asked the President how the University will handle the $50M exit penalty imposed by the ACC.
President Loh responded that the University is currently in litigation and the ACC has sued us. Therefore, he cannot speak to it. However, he can say that no other conference has been charged anywhere near $50M and that no other school has paid the full penalty amount. He explained that we took that into account when the decision was made and noted that these funds will not come out of taxpayer money.

Senator Cooperman, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, introduced Jeffrey Herf, History. Herf stated that the Big 10 is a vastly superior athletic conference to the ACC and that a lot of money will be needed to compete in this conference. He then asked, "Can you promise us that you will not permit this to take place and that you will accept the prospect of losing seasons in favor of spending more money on athletics? If you are committed to fielding teams that can be competitive, will not these additional expenses be deducted from research and teaching? The second question is: are you committed to being competitive with graduate students offers? What will you do to deemphasize the role of big-time athletics at this university and fight the distortion of values caused by athletics?"
Loh responded that he is committed to the continued academic excellence of this University, noting that we are about to conclude our first $1B campaign, which includes $330M for scholarships and fellowships to support our students. He also noted that we continue to work on the academic side of the house and that the University of Maryland has risen dramatically in the last 15-20 years. Not a single penny of appropriations goes to athletics; it is a completely self-sustaining enterprise. Some of our most generous donors to academics are also loyal athletic donors. Loh went on record to say that some of the revenue generated by the Big 10 deal will go to academics and financial aid for students. We are uncertain about how much that might be at this time. He noted that the Big 10 realized that money is not made by attendance at games but through the Big 10 network which reaches a larger audience through mobile devices, TVs, etc., and that we are in the global world where geographical boundaries no longer matter as much as they have in the past. Though we do not plan to invest more money into athletics, we have to address the deficit that athletics already has. President

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Loh noted that we made the hard choice of cutting teams and vowed that his successors would not inherit a program in a deficit.

Senator Farshchi, Undergraduate, Robert H. Smith School of Business, commended President Loh on the academic move to the Big 10, noting that students were concerned about losing the Duke rivalry. He asked if it is possible to still have the Duke game for the first few years of the transition.
President Loh stated that he received a lot of emails from athletic fans who were upset about the move. However, it is possible to schedule pre-conference games with Duke and the University of North Carolina (UNC). He noted that with the new ACC structure, we would only play Duke and UNC once every two years. He questioned the loyalty of the ACC to the University of Maryland when we are not scheduled with our strongest rivals. President Loh did wish the best for the ACC in the future.

Senator Lieb, Undergraduate, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, commended President Loh on the move to the Big 10 but objected to how the campus was informed. We did not have time to let it sink in before the vote. Why was the campus community not informed earlier?

President Loh stated that normally we believe in shared governance, but there are certain issues that if you consult in advance, and knowledge of the possible actions becomes public, the initiative will not be realized. The Big 10 made it clear that we could not talk and review its data without signing a confidentiality agreement for ten years. The Big 10 was negotiating with several other schools simultaneously. The amount that they offer each school varies. If he sat down with the University Senate and others, leaks could ruin our negotiations. The deal was not sealed until 10:30 a.m. Saturday morning before it was announced on Monday. We had been negotiating intensely for a week. The Board of Regents and members of the University's leadership were not aware because we would have had to reveal the terms of the negotiations. All conference realignments have been fast and confidential. Loh stated that he assembled a team of external experts including lawyers, sports economists, and former commissioners to scrub the numbers. We did due diligence over two months. He also noted that the BOR could have voted it down. Loh stated that he consulted with the political leaders in the state, major donors, the Chair of the Senate, and the Chancellor. He likened the confidential negotiations to those with companies that would like to be a part of our Research Park or for research grants. Loh reiterated that if the negotiations had not been kept confidential, we would not have had the opportunity.

Senator Gullickson, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, stated that she wished that President Loh would go further and would identify a minimum amount or percentage from the revenue generated that goes annually to academics. Can a specific percentage be written into the contract?

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Loh stated that the negotiations are for a lump sum, not a specific breakdown, and that implementation would be transparent. He also pointed out that we are forming a commission on the UM Big 10 CIC Integration. The commission will be asked to come up with a plan to ensure the financial sustainability of athletics for 20 years and properly support student athletes, as well as a plan for how revenue can be distributed to academics.

Gullickson stated that comparisons should be made of how much we pay graduate students, undergraduate scholarships, etc., in relation to other Big 10 schools. She hoped that this would allow us to truly compete on all levels.

Dean Steele, Libraries, thanked President Loh and Provost Rankin for their work on getting us into the Big 10 and the CIC. The Libraries will now be a part of the Center for Library Initiatives (CLI), which is the largest and most active group. The CLI did the negotiations with Google to get all of the collections within the CIC digitized. They also came up with the idea of the Hathi Trust, which is a digital repository that libraries from across the country own and operate. Our users will now have access to 80-90 millions volumes that are accessible through a single search site. There is a new, shared copy program being developed though the CIC, that assures that physical copies of books are available and a service method is attached to them. The buying power of the consortia saves the libraries $6.5M a year because of the wealth and clout of the group. This is a group that thinks and does big things, one that will be transformational for the libraries here.

Senator Meharg, Faculty, Athletic Coaches, commended President Loh on a very bold move. She stated that she was not met with a lot of love from the ACC at her annual end-of-season meeting. However, the coaches from the other institutions were committed to continuing competition with our University. She stated that she was on the commission and was shocked by the numbers that underscore how favorable the move is. She stated that the she was not aware of the decision being made and thanked the President for the secrecy involved because it could have made recruiting very complicated. She also noted that we have not had a lot of Olympic athletes because we have not been able to support our athletes to get to that level, and that the Big 10 does have the resources to support athletes in that way. She thanked the President for have the foresight to make the move to the Big 10.

Dean Hamilton, Undergraduate Studies, stated that she is hosting the ACC International Academic Collaborative (IAC) Advisory Committee and that we want to offer our good will to the ACC. The other institutions have been collegial about maintaining that relationship.

Chair Smith thanked President Loh for meeting with the Senate and for engaging questions.

Nominations Committee Slate 2012-2013 (Senate Doc. No. 12-13-27)
(Action)

Vincent Novara, Chair of the Committee on Committees, presented the Nominations Committee Slate and provided background information.

Smith opened the floor to any additional nominations; hearing none, she called for a vote on the slate. The result was 83 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

PCC Proposal on Environmental Science and Policy Environmental Geosciences and Restoration Proposed New/Merged Concentration (Senate Doc. No. 12-13-28) (Action)

William Idsardi, Chair of the Programs Curricula and Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the PCC Proposal on Environmental Science and Policy Environmental Geosciences and Restoration Proposed New/Merged Concentration and provided background information.

Smith opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Senator Gullickson, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, noted that the name of the new merged concentration was confusing and unclear.

Hearing no further discussion, Smith called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 80 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Modify the Membership of the Educational Affairs Committee to Include a Representative of the Division of Information Technology (Senate Doc. No. 12-13-15) (Action)

Devin Ellis, Chair of the Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee, presented the Proposal to Modify the Membership of the Educational Affairs Committee to Include a Representative of the Division of Information Technology and provided background information.

Smith opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, she called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 72 in favor, 7 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

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**Special Order of the Day - Brian D. Voss, Vice President & Chief
Information Officer, Promoting Innovation: The University of Maryland
Information Technology Strategic Plan – Draft**

Chair Smith asked the consent of the Senate to live-stream the next presentation
so that those that could not attend the meeting could watch it online. Hearing no
objections, she granted approval to stream the presentation.

Smith introduced Brian D. Voss, Vice President & Chief Information Officer to
present the draft Information Technology Strategic Plan.

Voss thanked the Senate for the opportunity to address the Senate.

Overview
IT abundance is the philosophy that guides what we are trying to do strategically.
How can we make IT not just something that we have to figure out that we need
and then go out and acquire, but anticipate the technology, tools, and
environment we need the technological support to do? How can we get to a
place not to have to think about what might be possible if we had particular tools
but actually to have those tools in place so that we can create what might be
possible. These possibilities are there when IT is advanced, current, readily
available, and prudently funded. Instead of an approach where if you want a
service you have to pay for it, we are looking at having resources that are readily
available, holistically funded, and promoted. An IT abundant environment
demonstrates the institution's embrace of technology in order to advance its
mission.

We want to bring that philosophy to IT because it supports the President's
priorities, which include student opportunity and achievement, innovation and
entrepreneurship, internationalization, and service to the State of Maryland. In
addition, the overriding strategy of the University states that, "we should embrace
the power of technology and what it can do for us in the 21st Century." These are
all reasons for creating this environment at the University.

Important to understand is how IT can affect the institution by enabling the
fundamental things that we do, such as create, share, and preserve knowledge.
In order to accomplish these goals in the 21st Century, we have to have
technology. We have to accept that IT is a fundamental strategic asset of the
institution. IT abundance is the foundation of IT enablement, which enables our
faculty to teach more effectively, our students to learn faster and better, our
researchers to open up new and expand older frontiers, and our institution's
decision-makers to manage more efficiently and effectively.

We need goals for IT at Maryland that support the strategic mission, goals, and
plan of the university. We need a plan to achieve those goals. We can achieve
this by providing excellent and abundant IT infrastructure and services and

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striving to be a global leader in the creative and innovative use, application, and provision of IT. By doing this, we will position ourselves to be one of the great Universities of the 21st century.

Strategic Planning
When developing the plan, we did not focus on the types of technology but rather the outcomes that the community wanted and the challenges that we face for which IT can find a solution. The plan does not focus on the how, how much, and when, but instead focuses on what is important and why. The process of planning will help us prepare for what lies ahead.

We focused on the areas of planning that aligned with the strategic priorities for the institution as well as those that arise from an IT perspective. These include scholarly enablement, research and innovation, infrastructure, and resource allocation and efficient and effective use.

Faculty from the campus chaired groups for each focus area. These groups were also made up of faculty, IT staff, and students to inform the process more capaciously. The recommendations include physical infrastructure, support and enablement of resources, scholarly enablement, research enablement, student experience, IT and the enterprise, funding IT strategically, IT security, policy, and business continuity, and IT governance.

The planning also included engaging individuals with an interest in contributing to IT enhancement, feedback from the broader community, the Campus IT staff, and the Senate. The timeline included initial stages of learning about the environment in Fall 2011, preparing for the planning in Spring 2012, refining input, and discussing possible recommendations in Summer 2012, and distributing a draft of the plan and incorporating feedback in Fall 2012. We will seek final input, finalize the plan, and seek the formal endorsement of the Plan at the start of the Spring 2013. Following endorsement of the senate and presidential approval, we will print 'hard-copy' versions and begin implementation plans. Implementation will involve the broader campus community. We will also look towards developing IT governance with the help of the University Senate.

Voss asked for the feedback and endorsement of the University Senate.

Q & A
Senator Shneiderman, Faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, stated that he appreciates the vision but forward, however, 50 members of the Department of Computer Science and UMIACS have raised concerns and offered amendments about sections within the plan, which does not address the unique needs of specific groups such as CS/UMIACS.

Voss responded that of the five items expressed, two have already been adopted verbatim; in two others significant modifications to the text were made that meet

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the spirit of the suggestions. The last one concerned the confidentiality of the external review. Voss assured the senators that the Division of IT will get guidance and support from the community on the recommendations that came out of that review.

Senator Reynolds, Faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, thanked Voss for putting forward the Plan and for being responsive to the feedback.
Voss responded that this Plan has to be embraced by the community. We need to build a collegial environment where we can work together to meet our needs.

Senator Walters, Faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, stated that he served on the IT Council a few years ago. He suggested that the number of faculty on that council be increased, since addressing the variety of issues on this campus is difficult with just three faculty offering input on the Council.
Voss responded that he is looking at a whole new structure instead of the IT Council, one that is faculty rich, and noted that we could consider the task forces used to make permanent governance committees that advise on specific areas.

Dean Townshend, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, stated that one of the issues within his college is IT scarcity. He thoroughly reviewed the Plan to see, "What is the response to the comments and feedback provided?" He stated that he welcomes the ideas and recommendations within the Plan.

Adjournment

Senate Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:46 p.m.

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