

## **University Senate**

May 3, 2012

### **Members Present**

Members present at the meeting: 110

### **Call to Order**

Senate Chair Kasischke called the meeting to order at 3:19 p.m.

Kasischke welcomed the incoming senators and asked that they please stand to be recognized. He announced that they were officially seated for the 2012-2013 academic year.

### **Election of the Chair-Elect**

Chair Kasischke introduced Vincent Novara, Faculty, Libraries, and Matthew Popkin, Undergraduate, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences as the candidates for Chair-Elect. He opened the floor to nominations. Hearing no additional nominations, he requested that all voting Senators vote on the Chair-Elect. Chair Kasischke announced that Vincent Novara had been elected Chair-Elect.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Chair Kasischke asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 19, 2012 meeting. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

### **Report of the Outgoing Chair, Eric Kasischke**

Chair Kasischke thanked senators for the opportunity to serve as Senate Chair. He also thanked the members of the Senate Executive Committee, the committee chairs, and the Senate Staff for their hard work and dedication. He also welcomed the incoming chair, Martha Nell Smith, and stated that he was confident that she would provide excellent leadership.

Incoming Chair, Martha Nell Smith, thanked Kasischke for his outstanding service and leadership over the past year and presented him with a small token of appreciation.

### **Special Elections**

Chair Smith thanked Mark Leone and the Nominations Committee for their work in developing the slates and the candidates who have agreed to run. She also encouraged senators to volunteer to serve on a senate committee. She then provided instructions on the process for the special elections.

Smith requested that all voting senators take out the ballots for the vote of the Senate Executive Committee and strike out Vincent Novara as a candidate because the chair-elect is an ex-officio member of the SEC. She opened the floor to nominations. Hearing none, she asked senators to complete their ballots.

Smith asked all voting senators to take out the ballots for the vote of the Committee on Committees. She opened the floor to nominations. Hearing none, she asked the senators to complete their ballots.

Smith asked all faculty senators to take out the ballots for the vote of the Athletic Council. She opened the floor to nominations. Hearing none, she asked the faculty senators to complete their ballots.

Smith asked all faculty senators to take out the ballots for the vote of the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). She opened the floor to nominations. Hearing none, she asked the faculty senators to complete their ballots.

Smith requested that all faculty, staff, and undergraduate senators take out the ballots for the vote of the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). She opened the floor to nominations. Hearing none, he asked the senators to complete their ballots.

Chair Smith stated that Reka Montfort would announce the results of the special elections by email following the meeting.

Smith announced that the Senate Meeting Schedule for 2012-2013 has been finalized and will be emailed to senators. She reminded everyone that only senators or those introduced by senators may speak. For the record, all speakers should state his or her name and constituency prior to speaking.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **2012 Campus Safety Report (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-38) (Information)**

Smith stated that the Campus Safety Report had been provided as an informational item from the Campus Affairs Committee.

Senator Popkin, Undergraduate, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences and Member of the Campus Affairs Committee, stated that he believes there are discrepancies between what the committee had agreed upon and what is included in the final report. Specifically, the topic for the forum was chosen because sexual assault is underreported on our campus not because of recent events. The conclusion of the report states that the committee would like the issue to be at the forefront. However, the committee did vote on recommendations that were not included in the report and at the judgment of the committee chair in consultation with the senate leadership. Popkin hopes that these recommendations do not go unheeded, and the committee plans to continue its work on this topic.

**PCC Proposal to Rename the “Community Health Education” Master of Public Health Area of Concentration to “Behavioral and Community Health” (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-39) (Action)**

David Salness, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, & Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the PCC Proposal to Rename the “Community Health Education” Master of Public Health Area of Concentration to “Behavioral and Community Health” and provided background information. He explained that the proposal requests a renaming of the area of concentration.

Smith opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, she called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 97 in favor, 3 opposed, and 5 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

**Amendment to Activation of the USM Clinical Faculty Titles (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-20) (Action)**

Juan Uriagereka, Member of the Faculty Affairs Committee, presented the committee’s report. He explained that the committee was requesting a clarification amendment to the recently approved policy in order to make it consistent with existing policy.

Smith opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, she called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 84 in favor, 7 opposed, and 11 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

**Special Order**

***Department of Intercollegiate Athletics’ Vision***  
**Kevin Anderson, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics**

Smith welcomed Kevin Anderson, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, to make his presentation.

Anderson thanked senators for the opportunity to address them.

Academic Mission

Anderson stated that he is committed to supporting, assisting, and enhancing the integration of athletics within the educational mission, and that Athletics is recruiting student-athletes who are capable of success at our University. He is committed to creating an environment for academic success and enhancing the experience of our student-athletes.

### Athletics Mission

Anderson stated that their mission is to be the best intercollegiate athletics program in the country. They strive to teach, develop, and inspire student athletes. They value honor, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Their guiding principles are respect, passion, honor, innovation, candor, focus, and diversity.

### Strategic Planning

Anderson explained that they clarified their vision and purpose by engaging the functional units (e.g. facilities, ticket operations, and sport programs). They explored the following: What do we stand for? What are our key values? What business are we in? What do we have passion for? What will success look like? The strategic planning process was inclusive and transparent and included several subcommittees. They began their work in January 2012 and are in the final stages of developing the plan.

Smith thanked Anderson for his presentation and opened the floor to questions.

### Q & A

Senator Levey, Faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, raised concerns about transparency with individual cases of student-athletes. He also asked Anderson about his thoughts about a specialized major for athletes.

Anderson responded that the student-athlete conduct book is clear that there are procedures, policies, and rules by which athletes must abide. That said, some issues regarding students cannot be openly discussed. Dealing with individual cases of violations, the process is as open and transparent as possible. There was a recent article about a curriculum for students interested in going into the sports field not just for athletes. He has discussed this with President Loh briefly and hopes to explore the possibilities further.

Senator Davis, Faculty, A. James Clark College of Engineering, stated that there appears to be a great deal of hypocrisy in college sports. He raised concerns about the demands on the student-athletes who are treated like professional athletes. We should encourage students who want to be professional athletes to come back to the University and earn their degree for free.

Anderson responded that intercollegiate athletics has been compared to slavery. However, he believes that there is value in scholarship if we believe in the student-athlete. There are many athletes who could not get in based on their academic merits alone. Athletics gives them an opportunity that they might not otherwise have. We need to make the best of the system that we have but hopefully the market will adjust to keep the balance. He also addressed the need to discuss the value of a scholarship with parents early on.

Andre Utes, Non-Exempt Staff, Department of Public Safety, asked about the impact on the smaller sports that have athletes who are good at sports and

academics when the focus seems to be on protecting the revenue-generating sports that are not as strong in academics.

Anderson responded that he did not want to cut sports but does have the responsibility to balance the budget, and that eight sports were cut when it could have been as many as ten. The existing policies for young athletes are what we must abide by. We are talking with our incoming athletes about the value of education. That might make these athletes more prepared for success when it comes. He explained that he was given the opportunity to get an education through athletics.

Utes followed up by asking whether it was a good strategy to recruit players who are likely to stay longer over those that might be more successful and leave earlier.

Anderson responded that we are interested in recruiting the outstanding athletes but it is what we do with them afterward that matters the most. He explained that he hired Randy Edsall because he graduated 80-85% of his players including one of the highest rates for African-American players, has academic rules, and holds them accountable. The coaches are committed to the education of our athletes.

Utes followed up by asking whether there could be a program specific for student-athletes such as managing their finances etc.

Anderson stated that the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics is working with Capital One to help teach athletes throughout the nation to manage and budget money. Intercollegiate Athletics is trying to do a better job of helping the athletes to make decisions that will best prepare them for life beyond athletics.

Senator Fagan, Undergraduate, Robert H. Smith School of Business, stated that the majority of our student-athletes are dedicated to academics and their futures. He commended Anderson and the Athletics Department on their work.

Anderson stated that they have developed a program for student-athletes who became professional to come back and get their degrees.

***Purple Line Design Considerations on Campus***  
**Carlo Colella, Associate Vice President, Facilities Management**

Smith invited Carlo Colella, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management to make a presentation on the Purple Line.

### Overview

Colella reviewed some of the design considerations for the Purple Line. The 16-mile east-west light rail line will run from Bethesda to New Carrollton with twenty-one stations. It is expected that there will be 60,000 daily riders on the line, taking 20,000 cars off the road. This line will connect to the Red, Green, and Orange Metro Lines as well as the MARC, Amtrak, and local bus services. The anticipated capital cost is \$1.9 Billion. Preliminary Engineering began in October 2011 with final design work being completed in Summer 2013 and construction beginning in 2015. The line will begin operation in 2020.

### Process

The University has been collaborating with the Maryland Transit Authority (MTA) to integrate the process with the development of the Facilities Master Plan. There have been monthly meetings of the working group to address issues including alignment, station locations, traffic operations, and design elements.

### Design/Roadway Configuration Elements

Colella stated that they have considered multiple lane configurations in order to enhance the pedestrian experience, accommodate bicycles, and maintain access for vehicles. After weighing the benefits and disadvantages, they have developed a recommendation that best meets the goals for the University and MTA Purple Line. The preferred option is the three-lane road where transit (buses and light rail) is in outside lanes and one-way westbound traffic in the center lane. The advantages of this option are that it minimizes the footprint, improves westbound traffic, improves transit services, allows for managed use of center lane, and reduces cut-through traffic on campus. In any event, the Purple Line will require a traffic signal. However, the "M" traffic circle restricts the flow of traffic with a signal. The preferred option is to make the "M" a part of a public landscape (adjacent to the intramural fields) in order to consolidate traffic movements and streamline pedestrian flow. The advantages to this change are enhancing the "M" as an iconic space, improving traffic and transit operations, and making safer pedestrian crossings.

Smith thanked Colella for his presentation and opened the floor to questions.

### Q & A

Evan Ponchick, Past Undergraduate Senator, Robert H. Smith School of Business, inquired about the two-lane option limited just to public transportation.

Colella responded that there was a pilot closure of Campus Drive. The challenge is that such a closure limits personal vehicles from getting from one side of campus to the other. If we go to a 3-lane option and decide that we do not need that lane, then it could revert to landscape.

Senator Rolston, Faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, stated that he was part of the Purple Line Working Group. The group raised concerns about the route through the center of campus. He said that this feels like a bait and switch because there is much more redirection and expansion that was

originally discussed. He advised that the University stand up for what is best for the University.

Colella responded that the two-lane option does not support the traffic needs of that area. However, it could be reverted down the road.

Dean Hamilton, Undergraduate Studies, stated that the "M" should be rotated to face the Campus Drive entrance so it is more visible.

Senator Burns, Undergraduate, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, inquired about the timing from the College Park Station to the Bethesda Station.

Colella responded that the end-to-end trip is 55 minutes but the MTA site has all of the travel times between the stations.

Burns also asked about the impact on metro fees.

Colella responded that he did not have that data. However, having the Purple Line will reduce metro bus service.

Senator Farshchi, Undergraduate, Robert H. Smith School of Business, stated that the artistic renderings do not appear realistic regarding the size of the trees. Would the trees be relocated to clear the view of the "M"?

Colella responded that the large trees would be removed and new trees planted. Some existing trees near Symons would remain but those in the intersection would be removed.

Senator Idsardi, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, inquired how the lanes would be limited to specific types of vehicles and also about the maintenance cost associated with shared lanes.

Colella responded that there would be signs for public transportation dedicated lanes. Maintenance of the public transportation lanes is the responsibility of the MTA.

Senator Lubrano, Graduate Student, Robert H. Smith School of Business, asked whether buses use the light rail lanes or are re-routed.

Colella stated that all forms of public transportation would share the same lanes.

Senator Asudegi, Graduate Student, A. James Clark College of Engineering, asked whether there were safety and environmental studies conducted.

Colella stated that there was a preliminary environmental impact study and the final study is underway. This includes noise measurements. Regarding safety, we have an agreement with the MTA that restricts the speed of the light rail to 15 MPH on

campus. They would be expected to stop for pedestrians and at crosswalks. There are other examples of this without safety issues.

Chair Smith wished the senators an enjoyable summer.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Adjournment**

Senate Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.