Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the April Senate Meeting

At the April 23, 2015 Senate meeting the Senate voted in favor of a **PCC Proposal to Establish an Area of Concentration in Health Equity for the Master of Public Health**, which was presented by Gregory Miller, Chair of the **Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee**. Miller likewise presented a **PCC Proposal to Establish an Area of Concentration in Health Policy Analysis and Evaluation for the Master of Public Health**, which passed, as well. The Senate also approved the **Addition of a User Experience Working Group to the IT Council**, which was presented by Jess Jacobson, Chair of the **Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee**. Terry Owen, Chair of the **Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) Committee** also presented changes to the **Interim UMD Sexual Misconduct Policy**, which were overwhelmingly approved. Lastly, Devin Ellis, Chair of the **Faculty Affairs Committee** presented two reports to the Senate: **UM Guidelines for Appointment, Evaluation, and Promotion of Professional Track Faculty** and **Consideration of a New Post-Doctoral Title**, both of which were amended and then approved.

"Having spent one's life at this University, I have as a Professor attempted to bring the perspective as a maker and artist to this University's family and specifically the Senate, the development of Form and Truth as needed in academic life as Friend and Colleague."

**– Richard Klank,
Current Faculty Senator and
Past APAS Committee Member**

The Senate is one of the **largest and most influential governing bodies** *on campus.*

University Senate = Shared Governance. *Faculty, staff, students, and administrators work together to better our University.*

The Senate debates and votes on policy-related issues and other governing aspects of the University. The Senate **directly advises the University President**.

The **Faculty Affairs Committee** is currently reviewing a charge related to **Faculty Leave Policies**, while the **Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) Committee** continues to work on its charge regarding **Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases**. Also, the **Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee** is working on two new charges related to a **Proposed Policy on Excused Absence** and a **Suggested Revision to the Academic Clemency Policy**, while it finishes its work on a **Review of Interim Policy and Procedures Concerning Credit for Prior Learning**. Lastly, the **Committee on Committees** will commence its work on committee memberships after the Annual Transition of the Senate.

Committee News

From the Senate Chair

There are two April meetings because of the many important issues that are being finished before the May transition, when our new Senators attend and vote for the next Chair-elect and a suite of elected committees and councils. Our April 23rd meeting followed the tradition of being a busy one, as committees reported their charges for final approval. The Campus Affairs Committee submitted its annual Safety Report detailing safety and security issues and providing data on the top concerns of our faculty, staff, and students. The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee brought forth its recommendations for changes to the Interim Sexual Misconduct Policy, which engendered a good deal of debate. The passage provides the overall policy document, while other Senate committees continue to work on the investigation and adjudication procedures for students, faculty, and staff.

During the past year, the non-tenure track faculty title was changed to Professional Track (PTK) Faculty, in order to recognize the importance of these professionals on our campus. The Faculty Affairs Committee presented its proposal to establish Guidelines for Appointment, Evaluation, and Promotion of PTK Faculty. Amendments were proposed during the debate, which ended with Senate approval of the amended report. This represents another step in our quest to provide PTK faculty with appropriate recognition and career paths for their contributions.

I noted during my Chair's Report that the period to volunteer for Senate committees would remain open until April 30th and urged everyone to consider them, as well as prompt their colleagues to volunteer. Shared governance at our University is needed to provide reasoned input to the administration on issues of our common concern. I urge you to consider volunteering in order to ensure that shared governance remains strong at UMD. **–Senate Chair, Donald Webster**

Upcoming Meetings

05/01/15: PCC Mtg

05/01/15: SCC Mtg

05/04/15: APAS Mtg

05/04/15: ERG Mtg

05/06/15: Senate Transition Mtg

05/07/15: Staff Affairs Mtg

05/07/15: Ed Affairs Mtg

05/11/15: SEC Transition Mtg

For a complete schedule
Click Here

Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases
Senate Document 14-15-03

Public Access Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program
Senate Document 14-15-05

Review of Interim University of Maryland Policy and Procedures Concerning Credit for Prior Learning
Senate Document 14-15-18

Revision of the University of Maryland Undergraduate Student Grievance Procedure
Senate Document 14-15-22

Review of Faculty Leave Policies
Senate Document 14-15-31

Click on any legislation item above for more details. To view all Senate Legislation: **Click Here**

Any member of the campus community may submit a proposal to the University Senate to review University policies★ and procedures or to suggest the creation and establishment of new ones.

To submit an idea or proposal to the Senate, click on a link below to download a blank proposal form in Word or as a PDF.

Proposal Form (Word Version)
Proposal Form (PDF Version)
Sample Proposal

★ A manual of current University policies can be found here: http://www.president.umd.edu/policies

Contact Us

Senate Office
1100 Marie Mount Hall
College Park, Maryland 20742-7541

301-405-5805 (Tel)
301-405-5749 (Fax)
senate-admin@umd.edu