



# Senate Newsletter

## NOTES FROM THE SENATE MEETING

At the April 7, 2016 Senate Meeting, Chair Brown reminded Senators that there are two more Senate meetings this month. The next meeting is on April 20th and the last meeting of the 2015–2016 Senate is on April 28th. At the May 5th Transition Meeting, all new Senators will be seated and the new and continuing Senators will vote on members of the elected committees and councils. Chair Brown also encouraged Senators to volunteer for committees and to ask their colleagues to volunteer for this important role.

President Loh gave a briefing on the legislative session in Annapolis. He talked about SB1052, the strategic partnership between the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). He stated the Governor had allowed the bill to become law. He also talked about the final report of the Lincoln Project, which was released with information on the public research university funding model. President Loh noted that the State budget has been approved with a merit increase for faculty and staff and a completely funded capital budget for UMD.

The Senate discussed and voted on the Strategic Plan Update. Provost Rankin gave a brief presentation. Senators proposed a few amendments. After a robust discussion, the Senate voted to approve the Strategic Plan Update as amended.



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.



“Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Each word has its own nuance; however, the virtue in which they all share is access. Having access is fundamental in relation to higher education and many students fail to receive that very basic right. The senate (EDI) committee is a remarkable entity that has committed its efforts to ensuring that we fulfill the needs that our students are entitled to. It has been a privilege to work amongst creative advocates all inspired to conceive as well as reinforce policies that will impact the UMD community at large.”

– Maya Aduba

Senate Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee Member

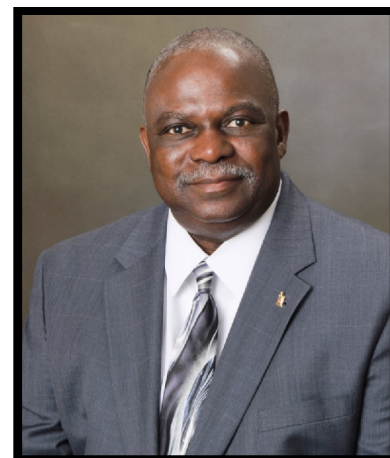
# Committee News

The Academic Procedures and Standard (APAS) Committee is currently reviewing the Proposed Policy on Excused Absence. The Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee is continuing its work on the review of several College and School Plans of Organization. The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee is continuing to review the Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases, and the Interim Policies and Procedures on Non-Discrimination and Accessibility and Disability. In addition, the Faculty Affairs Committee is working on its charge on a Review of Faculty Leave Policies. The Educational Affairs Committee has completed its review of the Undergraduate Student Grievance Procedure. Lastly, the Student Conduct, Staff Affairs, and Faculty Affairs Committees are reviewing the student, staff, and faculty sexual misconduct procedures.



## From the Senate Chair

At the April 7th meeting, the Senate voted on the Strategic Plan Update. This is a culmination of the hard work of one of the working groups of the Flagship 2020 Commission. It is an excellent example of campus engagement in charting the future of the University. Provost Rankin provided a preliminary presentation in September and then released a draft Strategic Plan Update to the campus community towards the end of the fall semester. Members of the campus community were given an opportunity to provide feedback through an online survey. The draft Plan was also discussed with the Senate in February and a campus-wide forum hosted by the Senate and the Provost. The final Strategic Plan Update was then brought back to the Senate for discussion, amendments, and approval, and is important for the future and the growth of the University of Maryland. The new Strategic Plan Update's goals will allow the UMD community to emphasize innovation and discovery, ensure the future of arts and humanities education, enhance graduate programs, and develop the greater College Park area for the benefit of our faculty, staff, students, and the greater community.



This year, the Senate has also been working to review many important University policies including sexual misconduct, non-discrimination, disability and accessibility, academic clemency, and the undergraduate student grievance procedure. The majority of the work on these policies has been done in the Senate committees. I encourage you to volunteer for a Senate committee and ask your coworkers to consider participating in this crucial part of shared governance on campus. The application period for Senate committee volunteers is open throughout April and is available on the Senate website. You do not have to be a Senator to serve on a committee. The Senate is looking for faculty, staff, and student representatives for all of our committees to take part in improving the University and our community.

Willie Brown

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Willie Brown".

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# Volunteer for a Senate Committee

Do you want to be more involved with the University? Volunteer to serve on a Senate committee! Many of the details involved in campus policy are first formulated within the eleven standing Senate committees. Senate committees research and deliberate on campus concerns, and they report their findings and recommendations to the full Senate throughout the year. You can play an important role in shared governance by participating in the committee process. Please consider volunteering to serve on a Senate committee for the upcoming 2016–2017 academic year. The Committee Preference Period will be open April 1 – April 30, 2016.

To volunteer for a Senate committee, visit the [Volunteer to Serve on a Committee](#) section of the Senate website and click the "Volunteer to Serve on a Senate Committee" link. You will be asked to log-in using your University directory ID & password and will then be routed to a committee preference form. On the form, you will be able to sign-up as a volunteer for committees with current vacancies in your constituency. To complete the form, mark your top three committee choices and submit a statement about why you want to serve as a volunteer. Please note that selected faculty and staff members will serve two-year terms and students will serve a one-year term on committees. If you are a continuing member of a committee, you do not have to complete this form.

A list of all Senate committees and information about the work they do can be found on our [website](#). You do not have to be a Senator to serve on a Senate committee. All committee preference forms will be reviewed by the Senate-elected [Committee on Committees](#) at the end of the spring semester. All volunteers will be notified by July 1, 2016 regarding whether they have received a committee assignment. Terms will begin in fall 2016.

The deadline to submit your committee preference form is April 30, 2016. Please feel free to contact the Senate Office at [senate-admin@umd.edu](mailto:senate-admin@umd.edu) or 301-405-5805 with any questions or technical difficulties. Thank you for your continued interest in shared governance at the University of Maryland!





## SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE

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 at:  
<http://www.president.umd.edu/policies>

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

4/15/2016: [Faculty Affairs Meeting](#)

4/19/2016: [SEC Meeting](#)

4/20/2016: [Senate Meeting](#)

4/25/2016: [Staff Affairs Meeting](#)

## CURRENT SENATE LEGISLATION

[Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases](#)

[Senate Document 14-15-03](#)

[Suggested Revision to the Academic Clemency Policy](#)

[Senate Document 14-15-29](#)

[Proposed Policy on Excused Absence](#)

[Senate Document 14-15-21](#)

[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](#)

Photos provided by:

John T. Consoli/University of Maryland and University Senate

