



# Senate Newsletter

## NOTES FROM THE SENATE MEETING

At the April 20, 2016 Senate Meeting, Chair Brown reminded Senators that there is one remaining meeting for all current Senators on April 28th. He noted that the Transition Meeting of the Senate for all continuing and new Senators is on May 5th. He also encouraged Senators to volunteer for committees.

Chair Brown presented the Review of Shared Governance Procedure Implementation as an informational item.

The Senate discussed and voted in favor of the Suggested Revision to the Academic Clemency Policy.

The Senate also discussed the Undergraduate Student Grievance Procedure. This was originally brought to the Senate in December 2015 and was recommitted to the Educational Affairs Committee. After further review and revisions, the Senate voted to approve the changes to the policy.

The Senate reviewed the PCC Proposal to Establish a BA in Public Policy. The Senate discussed the merits of this program, answered questions about its operation, and voted in favor of its creation.

Lastly, the Senate discussed the Revisions to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) Plan of Organization. The Senate voted in favor of the revised Plan.



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.



"As one of the PTK Faculty from an off-campus organization, my year of service on the University Senate more fully connected me to the University community of which I am a part, but am geographically removed from. Though my original motivation for Senate service was to help shape the implementation of the PTK process, I was fortunate enough to be placed on the EDI Committee, which is one of the few committees that gets to view members of the University in their whole personhood, rather as faculty, staff, student or alumni. As a result, I now feel both more connected and more informed as a University member, as do the PTK faculty I serve on behalf of."

– John Stevenson

Faculty Senator, Senate Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Member

# Committee News

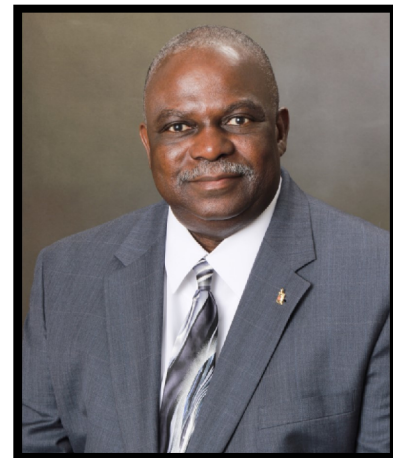
The Senate Committees are wrapping up their work for the academic year. This year, the committees worked on a number of important policies including nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, disability and accessibility, academic clemency, the undergraduate student grievance procedure, credit for prior learning, and excused absences. In addition, the ERG Committee has recommended several changes to the Senate Bylaws, reviewed College Plans of Organization, and calculated the apportionment of the Senate based on the changes to the University of Maryland Plan of Organization.



There is still time to volunteer for a Senate committee. The application is open until April 30th and is available on the Senate website. Much of the work of the Senate is done in its committees. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to participate on the Senate committees. Committee members do not have to be Senators so all faculty, staff, and students can take part.

## From the Senate Chair

Shared governance plays an important role in the advancement of the University of Maryland. The University Senate reviews and recommends changes to policies that cover all areas of campus and affect all members of the campus community. Shared governance functions at its best when faculty, staff, and students are engaged with the Senate and its committees. Senators are tasked with serving as a conduit between the campus community and the Senate by engaging their constituents and collecting feedback on issues within the Senate. It is important for all members of the campus community to provide feedback to Senators in order to allow Senators to share the perspectives of the entire community.



We have come a long way this year in increasing faculty, staff, and student engagement with the Senate, but we still have a long way to go. I encourage all members of the campus community to volunteer to serve on a Senate committee. I also encourage all of the continuing Senators to reach out to your constituents about the issues on the Senate's agendas. We must remember that shared governance plays a huge role in shaping the future of the University. As Senators, we have profound influence to help advise the administration. With your active participation, we can provide the administration with the collective input of the campus community that will help them make the most balanced and informed decisions possible. With your support, we will continue moving forward as one of the best universities in the nation.

Willie Brown

A handwritten signature of Willie Brown in blue ink.

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## 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

4/27/2016: [Campus Affairs Meeting](#)

4/28/2016: [Senate Meeting](#)

5/4/2016: [Student Affairs Meeting](#)

5/5/2016: [Faculty Affairs Meeting](#)

5/6/2016: [PCC Meeting](#)

5/9/2016: [Educational Affairs Meeting](#)

5/9/2016: [ERG Meeting](#)

5/16/2016: [SEC Meeting](#)

## CURRENT SENATE LEGISLATION

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

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

[Clarification and Codification on Declining Honor Pledge](#)

[Senate Document 15-16-31](#)

[Proposed Policy on Excused Absence](#)

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

[Consideration of a University of Maryland Weapons Policy](#)

[Senate Document 15-16-11](#)

[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

