



# Senate Newsletter

## NOTES FROM THE SENATE MEETING

At the October 7, 2015 Senate meeting, President Loh gave the first Presidential Briefing. He talked about the administration's view of the role of the Senate on campus and addressed concerns that adding sports to the University's primary missions of research and education is inappropriate. Senate Chair Willie Brown encouraged outgoing Senators to volunteer for the Nominations Committee by submitting an email to [senate-admin@umd.edu](mailto:senate-admin@umd.edu). This committee does important work to solicit nominations and make recommendations from Senators for the: Executive Committee, Chair-Elect, Committee on Committees, and other university-wide committees and councils up for election at the annual transition meeting in May. He also noted that the next meeting will be the State of the Campus Address. Andrew Harris, chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee presented the proposal to Establish a New Area of Concentration in International Relations for the Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics. The Senate voted in favor of this proposal. Robert Dooling, Chair of the Intellectual Property Subcommittee of the Research Council, presented the Review of the Policy on Intellectual Property. This review made the document shorter and easier to understand. After much discussion on the Senate floor, the Senate voted to recommit the policy to the Intellectual Property Subcommittee for further review. It will return to the Senate once the subcommittee has addressed all of the feedback and questions from Senators.



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.



*Serving on the Senate has been a rewarding experience. It provides the opportunity to contribute to the University while gaining deeper insight and new perspectives on the community's needs. As a community constantly develops and evolves, the Senate allows us to be part of the transformation.*

- Daniela Wagner-Loera

Faculty Member and

Member of the Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee

# Committee News

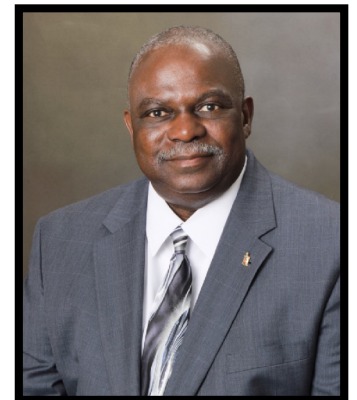
The Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee is beginning its review of the Proposed Policy on Excused Absence. The Committee on Committees will consider nominees and create a slate of candidates for the incoming Nominations Committee, which will solicit nominees for the 2016–2017 Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and other important positions during the spring semester. The Student Conduct Committee, the Faculty Affairs Committee, and the Staff Affairs Committee are continuing to review the Sexual Misconduct Procedures for students, faculty, and staff, respectively. The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee has begun reviewing a proposal on the Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases. The Educational Affairs Committee is working to finish its recommendations on the Undergraduate Student Grievance Procedure.



## From the Senate Chair

This year, we have developed new procedures to enhance engagement between the Senate and the administration, including establishing an agenda item for a Presidential Briefing at Senate meetings. Senators suggested several topics for the President to consider. In October, President Loh selected two topics from those suggestions: the administration's view of the role of the Senate and concerns about adding athletics to the primary mission of the University. After the Senate meeting, Senators were sent a survey that allowed them to provide feedback on the President's remarks.

This is an excellent opportunity for Senators to learn more about issues that are important to them and provide feedback on those issues. I encourage Senators to be actively engaged in this process by suggesting topics for future briefings and providing feedback directly to the administration. It is our hope that this procedure will increase the engagement between the campus community and the administration.



From September 23 – 25, Don Webster (immediate past chair of the Senate), Reka Montfort (executive secretary and director of the Senate), and I attended the annual Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Faculty Governance Leadership Conference at the University of Illinois in Urbana–Champaign. Illinois gave an overview of activities on their campus in the following areas: Big 10 Athletics, Higher Education Funding, Disability Resources and Education Services, College Affordability and Accessibility, Academic Freedom and Tenure, Non–Tenure Track Faculty, Open Access to Research, and Faculty Benefits and Compensation. It was interesting realizing that they face many of the same challenges that we face. The second day of the conference began with an overview of shared governance at the University of Illinois, followed by a presentation of how to interact with the media, and finished with a spirited return to the discussion of shared governance. We came to the conclusion that although we have much that can be improved upon with regards to shared governance, we are far better off than many of our peers.

Thank you all for your work on the Senate, and on behalf of the Senate Office and all Terrapins, Stay Fearless!

Willie Brown

A handwritten signature of Willie Brown in blue ink, written in a cursive style.





## 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

10/16/2015: [Staff Affairs Meeting](#)

10/19/2015: [SCC Meeting](#)

10/20/2015: [EDI Meeting](#)

10/22/2015: Faculty Affairs Meeting

10/23/2015: [Committee on Committees Meeting](#)

10/23/2015: [ERG Meeting](#)

10/30/2015: [SEC Meeting](#)

11/10/2015: [Senate Meeting– President's State of the Campus](#)

## 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](#)

Photos provided by:

John T. Consoli/University of Maryland and University Senate

