



Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the May Senate Meeting

At the May 7, 2014 Senate meeting the Senate conducted special elections for the 2014-2015 **Senate Chair-Elect**, the **Senate Executive Committee (SEC)**, the **Senate Committee on Committees**, the **Athletic Council**, the **Council of University System Faculty (CUSF)**, and the **Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)**. **Election results** have been posted on the Senate website. After the special elections, Marilee Lindemann, Chair of the **Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee**, presented the following proposals to the Senate for review: the **PCC Proposal to Establish a**

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in World Language Education, the **PCC Proposal to Establish a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Public Financial Management**, and the **PCC Proposal to Establish a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in African-American Studies**. After discussion on the details of each of the programs, the Senate voted to approve the proposals. Additionally, the Senate voted to approve the **Revisions to the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences (CMNS) Plan of Organization** and the **Revisions to the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (ARCH) Plan of Organization**.



The Senate is one of the largest and most powerful 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.



"My two years on the Student Conduct Committee have been a great experience for me to improve the University community. In addition, it is a great environment for someone to express their opinions on how they can help the university evolve for the better."

-Jacob Piekarz, Student Conduct Committee Member



From the Past Senate Chair



The work of the Senate this year has been transformative. Consider some of the highlights of what we have accomplished:

At the October meeting, the Sexual Harassment Task Force, led by Cindi Hale, a joint venture with the President's office at President Loh's initiation, provided extensive recommendations for the University's policies and procedures. This included the creation of a Title IX Office, headed by the new Title IX Coordinator, Catherine Carroll, who is joined by a new Title IX Investigator. As many of you can recall, the recommendations passed in the Senate to great acclaim.

Later, at the first of two Senate meetings in April, the Faculty Affairs Committee presented their recommendations pertaining to the employment and promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty, resulting in the new unified framework and promotion ladder for these faculty members. This also passed with great acclaim and puts this institution out ahead of most of our peers.

This was followed at the second meeting in April by the Joint Provost/Senate APT Guidelines Task Force, led by Brad Hatfield, presenting the proposed recommendations that cover evolving forms of scholarship, work/life balance challenges, external evaluator communications, the notions of innovation and entrepreneurship in the academic enterprise, as well as other topics. While the Task Force completed its charge by the deadline, given the scope and gravity of the recommendations, the Senate voted to extend consideration of the recommendations until the first meeting of the Fall 2014 semester.

The Student Conduct Committee submitted its report on Academic Integrity, as well as a report recommending maintaining the current evidentiary standards for student conduct cases. The Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee proposed nine new undergraduate or graduate programs. The Elections, Representation, and Governance Committee reviewed four College Plans of Organization and a new IT Council structure, as well as completed a memorandum on recommendations for changing Senate apportionment, and an assessment of shared governance at UMD. Its assessment of shared governance was submitted to the Plan of Organization Review Committee, which was launched at the start of this year, and is chaired by Charles Wellford, a past chair of the Senate. This special committee will continue into the fall semester its important work on revising and updating the plan for shared governance for this campus. Which is not to say that all of the Senate committees were not busy this year with work that did not find its way to the Senate floor for deliberation. We all owe a debt of thanks to the committee chairs for their service to the university this year!

Taken as a whole, this is transformative action taken by the Senate. This is impactful shared governance. And it has been my distinct honor to serve the University of Maryland as its Chair of the University Senate for this past year in support of these endeavors.

Vincent Novara



Welcome From the Chair

I have spent most of my life involved in education and continue to appreciate learning with as much enthusiasm as I enjoy teaching. This year, serving as Chair-Elect, has provided me with abundant learning experiences. The position has allowed me to participate on a multiplicity of committees and to meet and work with some of the finest individuals I have known in my career. I am grateful for the experience and look forward to using the contacts and knowledge that I have gained to keep the tradition of our Senate as vibrant and important as it has always been.

Being Chair of the Committee on Committees allowed me to see the volunteer spirit that is prevalent at the University of Maryland. The committee members sought to balance a variety of factors in making appointments to the many groups they are charged with staffing. Participating in meetings of the Facilities Council brought me into contact with those who are charged with ensuring that the campus operates properly. These

professionals keep the physical facilities of this great institution in order while undertaking the planning and supervision for new construction projects designed to keep us among the top universities in the nation. Being a member of the Library Council educated me about the many issues faced by this critical part of our campus community, as it allowed me to work with the dedicated members determined to make our library system one worthy of a high-caliber campus such as ours.

Being on the Senate Executive Committee brought me in contact with the group that discusses and assigns proposals to committees as charges. The discussions are always interesting and often passionate, as opinions on issues are as varied as the composition of our campus. The SEC is also privileged to have a monthly breakfast meeting with President Loh during the school year where candid conversations regarding the many issues affecting the University regularly take place. It is apparent that the spirit of shared governance is taken very seriously by all parties throughout our institution.

This year saw many important issues being addressed. While it was initially thought that we could get several of the largest efforts through the Senate by this spring, it was necessary to move some of that work to the 2014 Fall Senate agenda. We did see the Senate vote to approve the Faculty Affairs Committee's report on the framework for NTT faculty appointments. This was a great undertaking meant to provide our valued NTT faculty with career steps that parallel those of tenure-track faculty. Unfortunately, while we came close to seeing the Senate approve the APT Task Force report, a request by several Deans and the Provost for additional time for review was granted and we will take this up in the fall. With APT being one of the most important foundations of our institution, it is better to provide the time to ensure a proper and critical review of the document.

I was fortunate to have had an excellent friend and colleague in Vin Novara, and greatly valued his advice and counsel throughout the year. I look forward to continuing the tradition of the "3 Chairs" meeting monthly with the Provost during the next year and know that I can always count on Vin for input and guidance during the coming months.

As for new leadership, we are privileged to have an outstanding Chair-Elect. Willie Brown has spent over twenty years at the University of Maryland and has a well-deserved reputation for excellence. He is currently the Director of Office Automation in the Division of Information Technology and has had significant involvement in the process of shared governance, including most recently serving as the Chair of the Campus Affairs Committee. I look forward to a strong and productive relationship with Willie and know that all elements of the institution join me in welcoming him to this new leadership role.

Donald Webster

Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

Code of Academic Integrity Changes

Senate Document 13-14-26

Update Adjunct 1 & 2 Classification Policy

Senate Document 13-14-15

Revisions to the College of Education (EDUC) Plan of Organization

Senate Document 13-14-05

Consideration of an Overall Title for Non-Tenure Track Faculty

Senate Document 12-13-56

Review of Civility in the UMD Workplace Environment

Senate Document 12-13-54

Review of the University of Maryland Guidelines for Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure

Senate Document 12-13-24

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>

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