



Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the October Senate Meeting

At the October 20, 2011 Senate meeting Senators debated the Campus Affairs Committee's recommendation to adopt a campus-wide motor scooter and moped helmet policy at UMD (**Senate Doc. 10-11-33**). The Senate ultimately voted in favor of the recommendations that protective headgear be required when operating or riding these vehicles on campus. Pending Presidential approval, the Director of the Department of Transportation Services (DOTS), in consultation with the Campus Transportation

Advisory Committee (CTAC), should establish and implement regulations and fines regarding the required use of helmets. In addition to the helmet debate, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies Donna Hamilton presented an update on the implementation of the new **General Education** program. The program is on track to be fully implemented by Fall 2012. The new Senate General Education Committee will execute broad oversight and supervision of General Education at UMD.



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.*



The Senate provides an amazing opportunity to meet colleagues who share a sense of responsibility for their community. I've gained a better understanding of governance at the University as well as new insight into issues faced throughout all of campus.

– Vandaliah Thompson, Staff Senator



The Senate committees are hard at work as they move past the mid-point of the fall semester. The **Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee** has submitted its recommendations on **plus/minus grading** to the **Senate Executive Committee (SEC)** for review. Look for this proposal on the November Senate meeting agenda. The **Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee** recently approved seven proposals for program changes including the creation of graduate programs in second language acquisition, and programs in higher education, student affairs, and international education policy. These proposals will be reviewed by the SEC and Senate in the upcoming months. The **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee** continues to discuss **same-sex domestic partner benefits** and is currently compiling letters of support for its final report. The **Faculty Affairs Committee** has been reviewing the interim **policy on Adjunct Faculty** and should present its findings by the end of the semester. The **Campus Affairs Committee** is beginning to consider ideas for its annual Safety Forum; please **contact the Committee** with any suggestions.



Committee News



The October University Senate meeting saw the first vigorous debate of the year, focused on the proposal that the UMD Dept. of Transportation Services develop and institute a policy that requires use of helmets by those who operate motor scooters or mopeds on

From the Senate Chair

campus. This proposal was forwarded from the Campus Affairs Committee, who spent the past year reviewing this issue, with discussions being held at a campus wide forum and over the past few weeks by the Student Government Association. Well-thought-out arguments were presented by Senators and constituents for and against this proposed policy during the Senate meeting. I look forward to similar debates as other proposals are considered by the Senate in future meetings.

Eric Kasischke

Upcoming Meetings

11/3/11: Student Affairs Mtg

11/4/11: PCC Mtg

11/7/11: ERG Mtg

11/7/11: Staff Affairs Mtg

11/8/11: General Ed. Mtg

**11/9/11: Senate Mtg/
President Loh
State of the Campus Address**

For a complete schedule
[Click Here](#)



BOR Staff Awards Open For Nominations!

A Council of University System Staff (CUSS) initiative, the Board of Regents' University System of Maryland Staff Awards represent the *highest honor* bestowed by the Board of Regents (BOR) for achievements of Exempt and Non-Exempt Staff employees from institutions within the University System of Maryland (USM). The awards are presented to Staff employees who have demonstrated excellence in one of the following categories:

1. **Exceptional Contribution to the Institution and/or Unit to Which the Person Belongs**
2. **Outstanding Service to Students in an Academic or Residential Environment**
3. **Extraordinary Public Service to the University or Greater Community**
4. **Effectiveness & Efficiency (Academic Transformation & Administrative Transformation)**

Two awards are given in each of the first three categories – one Exempt Staff employee and one Non-Exempt Staff employee, and one each for the fourth category (Non-Exempt or Exempt) – for a total of eight awards. Each recipient will receive a **\$1,000 stipend** and will be awarded a plaque. In addition, appropriate notices will be placed to publicize each honoree's accomplishments. Awards will be announced in June 2012 and formally presented at a Board of Regents meeting in early fall of 2012.



The deadline to submit Nominations Packets is Friday, November 11, 2011

For more information about eligibility, process, and nomination packets:

<https://www.senate.umd.edu/news/archives/2011BORInstructions.cfm>

Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

Student-Initiated Courses (SICs) Proposal

Senate Document 10-11-38

Faculty Satisfaction with Student Academic Dishonesty Honor Review Procedures

Senate Document 10-11-59

Reform of the University APT Committee Procedures

Senate Document 11-12-03

Policies on the Employment of Adjunct Faculty

Senate Document 11-12-06

Proposal to Clarify and Improve Student Class Selection

Senate Document 11-12-11

Proposal to Change the Committee on the Review of Student Fees (CRSF) Operating Procedure

Senate Document 11-12-12

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