



## **CALL TO ORDER**

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Senate Chair Lanford called the meeting to order at 3:19 p.m.

Lanford noted that President Loh and Provost Rankin would like to address the Senate and stated that they would do so at the start of the meeting if there were no objections from Senators. Hearing none, Lanford welcomed President Loh and Provost Rankin.

## **UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT LOH & PROVOST RANKIN**

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President Loh provided an update on the steps the University had taken in response to the COVID-19 crisis:

- 136 study-abroad students were called back from Italy and asked to self-isolate and self-monitor for 14 days.
- The University is imposing restrictions on the use of institutional funds to travel to level-3 countries and encouraging faculty who have been to those countries to self-isolate.

He also noted that in Seattle, there had already been 9 COVID-19-related deaths, public schools had been shut down, and that 30,000 students & faculty at the University of Washington had signed a petition to close the University.

Provost Rankin stated that the Incident Response Team (IRT) had been convening every week to address coronavirus. She provided an overview of their efforts while following CDC guidelines:

- Developing online options for the 759 study-abroad students with options for 400 developed so far;
- Meeting with the Deans to prepare for the possibility of closures or a potential delay of the fall semester;
- Trying to plan ahead so the University is prepared for what may come;
- keep-teaching.umd.edu site will organize resources for instructional faculty;

Lanford thanked President Loh and Provost Rankin for their timely updates.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, FEBRUARY 5, 2020 MEETING**

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The minutes were approved as distributed.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

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### Meeting Extension

The Senate Executive Committee has preemptively approved a 15-minute extension for the meeting so it will not end until 5:15 p.m.

### Senator Elections Update

The voting period for staff, student, and single-member constituency Senators ends Friday, March 6, 2020.

### Nominations Committee

The Senate Nominations Committee is looking for candidates to run for open positions on Senate-elected committees and councils, including next year's Senate Executive Committee, Senate Committee on Committees, University Athletic Council, Council of University System Faculty, and Campus Transportation Advisory Committee. The elections will be held at the Transition Meeting on May 6th.

### Our New President

Lanford congratulated Dr. Darryll J. Pines, who was appointed the University's 34th President by the Board of Regents starting on July 1, 2020. On behalf of the Senate, she extended our support during the transition and our partnership going forward to help strengthen shared governance together. She also noted that Dr. Pines had established a Transition Committee and had asked her to serve on the committee and chair the sub-committee on the Senate.

## **DEACTIVATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK POLICY AND PROCEDURES CONCERNING TELEPHONE CREDIT CARDS (SENATE DOCUMENT #19-20-43) (INFORMATION)**

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Lanford noted that the Senate leadership, in collaboration with the President's Office and the Office of General Counsel developed a formal process for deactivating the University's policies and procedures because over time, the principles upon which they were developed, or the circumstances to which they applied have changed significantly or no longer exist, such that the original policy and procedure is moot or no longer needed. The process is similar to the one developed for technical amendments with two important distinctions: they can only be initiated by the administrative unit responsible for implementation; and they will not be formally removed until the Senate is notified and the President has approved the deactivation.

Lanford stated that the request to deactivate the University of Maryland, College Park Policy and Procedures Concerning Telephone Credit Cards came from the University IT Council in collaboration with the Division of IT. The recommendation for removal of the policy is because it is an outdated functionality that has not been used for many years. Lanford noted that this item was being provided as an information item to the Senate but it will also be sent to the President for approval of the deactivation and removal from the University's policy page while allowing the Senate a means to keep a record of the deactivation.

## **INTERIM UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICY ON FACULTY PARENTAL LEAVE AND OTHER FAMILY SUPPORTS (SENATE DOCUMENT #18-19-34) (ACTION)**

## **INTERIM UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICY ON STAFF PARENTAL LEAVE AND OTHER FAMILY SUPPORTS (SENATE DOCUMENT #18-19-35) (ACTION)**

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Daniel Lathrop, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee and Jane Hirshberg, Chair of the Staff Affairs Committee provided a joint presentation of the recommendations from each committee and provided background information.

- A Senator asked whether employees were required to use annual leave before receiving assured parental leave and the chairs confirmed that was the case.
- A Senator inquired about the provision limiting parental leave to three uses. The chairs explained that the policy was actually expanded to three uses.

The Senate voted to approve the Faculty Parental Leave policy with a vote of **85 in favor, 5 opposed, and 5 abstentions.**

The Senate voted to approve the Staff Parental Leave policy with a vote of **87 in favor, 6 opposed, and 2 abstentions.**

### **AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (SENATE DOCUMENT #19-20-32) (ACTION)**

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Andrea Dragan, Chair of the Student Conduct Committee presented the proposal and provided background information.

A Senator inquired whether there would be any benefit to students if they were aware of this clarification in the policy previously.

Andrea Goodwin, Director of Student Conduct stated that students are already alerted that their degree could be revoked.

A Senator inquired on whether the degree revocation was limited to a Maryland degree or degrees from other institutions as well.

Goodwin confirmed that it would only affect the Maryland degree.

The Senate voted to approve the proposal with a vote of **93 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions.**

### **PCC PROPOSAL TO RENAME THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN “VETERINARY MEDICAL SCIENCE” TO “COMPARATIVE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES” (SENATE DOCUMENT #19-20-41) (ACTION)**

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Betsy Beise, Member of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee presented the proposal and provided background information.

A Senator inquired whether the program expected any changes in the backgrounds of the incoming students.

Beise stated that they did not anticipate a significant change.

The Senate voted to approve the proposal with a vote of **89 in favor, 4 opposed, and 3 abstentions.**

### **PPC PROPOSAL TO RENAME THE PH.D. IN “VETERINARY MEDICAL SCIENCE” TO “COMPARATIVE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES” (SENATE DOCUMENT #19-20-42) (ACTION)**

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Betsy Beise, Member of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee presented the proposal and provided background information.

Senators did not discuss the proposal but voted to approve it with **92 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions.**

### **PROPOSAL TO LOWER THE UNIVERSITY’S GPA CUTOFF FOR LATIN HONORS ELIGIBILITY (SENATE DOCUMENT #19-20-10) (ACTION)**

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William Reed, Chair of the Academic, Procedures & Standards (APAS) Committee presented the proposal and provided background information.

Senators inquired about the history of past college GPAs, whether 3.9 was too high, whether a 3-year average was considered, whether the change may disincentivize students from taking challenging courses, and whether the change would dilute the honor compared to peers.

Reed explained that the committee explored a variety of options before agreeing on the hybrid approach. He noted that the college GPA trends had been relatively stable over the years. He also noted that Maryland's standards are much higher than the majority of its peers.

The Senate voted to approve the proposal with a vote of **78 in favor, 8 opposed, and 6 abstentions.**

## **SPECIAL ORDER**

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**George Hurtt, Chair of the University Research Council**

***Preliminary Directions on the University of Maryland Policy and Procedures for the Establishment and Review of Centers and Institutes***

George Hurtt, Chair of the University Research Council provided background information, the council's work-to-date, and an overview of preliminary findings on the centers and institutes policy.

- There is no central repository of centers & institutes at the University;
- There are no clear, stated definitions or levels at the University of what constitutes a center versus an institute;
- There needs to be more clarity about what aspect of the University mission a center or institute supports.
- There is no formal establishment or approval process for new centers and institutes at the University.
- There are no consistent guidelines on structure/operations at the University.
- With regard to funding, clarification is needed on institutional support and DRIF return rates.
- There is no standard review process (internal and/or external).
- There are no existing sunset provisions at the University and no sense of what criteria should be used in determining when and how to close, revise, or repurpose a center or institute.
- There are no probationary periods at the University;

Senators noted the importance of specific merit-based evaluation that can be adapted to each discipline and the importance of enforcing the periodic review cycle.

## **SPECIAL ORDER**

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**Katharine Abraham, Chair of the Special Committee on University Finance (SCUF)**

***Spring 2020 Update on the Activities of the Special Committee on Finance***

Katharine Abraham, Chair of SCUF, provided an update on the committee's activities thus far including its work in Fall 2019 to develop a deep understanding of University finances:

- The Macro View of University Finances
- The Basics of the Governor's Budget
- Financial Improvement Initiatives
- Student Enrollments and Tuition

- Allocation of Resources across Colleges and Divisions
- Auxiliaries and Student Support Services
- Capital Budget and Facilities Renewal
- Greater College Park Investment
- Allocation of Resources to Faculty and Staff
- Overview of the Budget Request Process

She also provided an overview of the committee's ongoing efforts:

- SCUF is reviewing the priorities in the University's Strategic Plan and developing a list of data needed to appropriately assess budget priorities.
  - Data that show trends over time along various dimensions will help the committee better understand how the Strategic Plan is reflected in budget decisions.
- SCUF is reviewing the budget timeline to determine whether there are specific points in the budget process where recommendations would have the most significant impact.
- SCUF plans to develop informational materials about the University's budget and share them publicly on the Senate website.
  - The committee plans to develop a Frequently Asked Questions list, featuring some common questions and myths about the budget process.
- SCUF has used its first year to develop a deep understanding of University finances, and to thoughtfully develop plans on how to fulfill its charges.
  - Laying the foundation for impactful work over the next two years.
  - Because of the upcoming transition in leadership, the committee plans to gain additional insight from the incoming President on ways in which the committee can best advise his administration.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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Senator Sehgal made a motion to approve a Resolution to Support the University of Maryland's Designation as an Age-Friendly University. The motion was seconded.

### **Resolution to Support the University of Maryland's Designation as an Age-Friendly University**

Whereas, a growing number of institutions of higher education around the world have committed to ensuring age-friendly policies and programs in research, teaching, and practice.

Whereas, the Age Friendly University Global Network developed Ten Principles of an Age-Friendly University, which set out a framework for institutions of higher education to embrace age-friendly practices.

Whereas, the University Senate affirms the following Ten Principles of an Age-Friendly University:

1. To encourage the participation of older adults in all the core activities of the university, including educational and research programs.
2. To promote personal and career development in the second half of life and to support those who wish to pursue second careers.
3. To recognize the range of educational needs of older adults.

4. To promote intergenerational learning to facilitate the reciprocal sharing of expertise between learners of all ages.
5. To widen access to online educational opportunities for older adults to ensure a diversity of routes to participation.
6. To ensure that the university's research agenda is informed by the needs of an aging society and to promote public discourse on how higher education can better respond to the varied interests and needs of older adults.
7. To increase the understanding of students of the longevity dividend and the increasing complexity and richness that aging brings to our society.
8. To enhance access for older adults to the university's range of health and wellness programs and its arts and cultural activities.
9. To engage actively with the university's own retired community.
10. To ensure regular dialogue with organizations representing the interests of the aging population.

Be it resolved that the University Senate supports the designation of the University of Maryland as an Age-Friendly University.

Be it further resolved that the University Senate encourages the Senior Vice President & Provost and the President to support this designation in order to further ensure the proactive inclusion of older stakeholders in all educational, service, research, and cultural aspects of the University.

Senators were generally supportive of the resolution and noted that you can learn at any age but also noted the importance of supporting Disability and Support Services (DSS).

The Senate voted to approve the resolution with a vote of **68 in favor, 7 opposed, and 6 abstentions.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.