



November 2, 2018

Senate Chair's Report

- On September 5, 2018, the University Senate charged the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) with reviewing the outcomes of the investigations into the tragic death of Jordan McNair and the alleged "toxic culture" in the football program by providing recommendations to the Senate and the President, as appropriate.
- The Senate Leadership formed a subcommittee of the SEC with representation from each constituency and led by the Chair-Elect to facilitate the review.
- President Loh communicated to the SEC that the situation was evolving rapidly and requested feedback as soon as possible so the subcommittee provided preliminary suggestions to the President, the SEC, and subsequently the Chair of the Athletics Council.
- The Board of Regents Commission report was released earlier this week and it was clear that action would be taken quickly. The entire SEC met and agreed to amend the preliminary suggestions to add one element emphasizing the importance of stability in the institutional leadership in order to ensure swift implementation of the recommendations.

[Update on the SEC Charge to Review the Outcomes of the Athletics Reports](#)

- Pam Lanford, Chair-Elect provided an overview of the subcommittee's approach and preliminary suggestions as outlined below:
 - Ongoing oversight of the implementation of the Athletics Action Plan and regular reporting to the Athletics Council;
 - An ongoing schedule of trainings on the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) with associated documentation and periodic internal and external reviews of safety protocols;
 - Support for the "Medical Model" for athletic trainers;
 - Reporting mechanisms for student-athletes and staff to express concerns that are reviewed by the leadership of Athletics and separate University division and the establishment of a student-athlete ombudsperson;
 - Maintaining the current University leadership is in the best interest of the campus and the engagement of faculty, staff, and students through the University Senate will be integral to the successful implementation of necessary reforms.

[Update from the Athletics Council](#)

- Nicholas Hadley, Chair of the Athletics Council, provided an overview of the membership and organizational structure of the Athletics Council.
- Hadley emphasized the Council's commitment to closely monitoring implementation of the recommendations from both reports.
- Hadley stated that the Council had been working to finalize a statement that condemns the treatment of the students on the football team as described in the Commission report; the importance of developing a process for obtaining information from student athletes about their experiences; and increased oversight of Athletics.

- Hadley also expressed concerns that while the Commission's investigation was largely focused on the football program, it comments on Athletics in broad terms without conducting a review of athletics culture as a whole.

Discussion of a [Senate Statement in Support of Upholding the Values of Academic Governance](#)

- Pam Lanford, Chair-Elect, introduced a resolution on behalf of the Senate leadership condemning the Board of Regents' recent actions.
- Senators discussed the importance of academics and whether athletics should be allowed to take precedence over academics at a premier research institution.
- Senators debated the language of an amendment proposed to acknowledge Jordan McNair and the failures of leadership that resulted in his death and ultimately approved the following amendment:

Whereas, the faculty, staff, students, and administrators at the University of Maryland are outraged at the failures of leadership that led to Jordan McNair's death.
- The Senate approved the resolution as amended.

New Business

- Senators proposed [a resolution to improve the status of shared governance and athletics in the University System of Maryland \(USM\)](#).
- The Senate voted to postpone its consideration of the resolution to the November 7, 2018 Senate meeting.

Relevant Links

- Update on the SEC Charge to Review the Outcomes of the Athletics Reports https://senate.umd.edu/system/files/resources/MeetingMaterials/11022018/110218_SEC_Charge_Update_Reviewing_Outcomes_of_Athletics_Reports.pdf
- Update from the Athletics Council https://senate.umd.edu/system/files/resources/MeetingMaterials/11022018/110218_Athletics_Council_Update.pdf
- Senate Resolution condemning the actions of the Board of Regents https://senate.umd.edu/system/files/resources/Resolutions/Resolution_Condemning_Actions_of_BOR.pdf
- Proposed resolution to improve the status of shared governance and athletics in the University System of Maryland (USM) https://senate.umd.edu/system/files/resources/MeetingMaterials/11072018/Resolution_to_Improve_Status_Shared_Gov_Athletics_USM_18-19-17.pdf