



Senate Newsletter

NOTES FROM THE SENATE MEETING

At the April 4, 2019, Senate meeting, President Loh provided a briefing that included updates on the Middle States Commission on Higher Education small team visit to the University; a new \$150 million construction project on Baltimore Avenue that will create more housing, shopping, and restaurants for the surrounding University community; and the recent Maryland General Assembly legislative session. President Loh also explained his plans to formalize his interactions with the Senate leadership through regular monthly meetings rather than adding the Senate Chair to his Cabinet.

Senators reviewed and voted to approve the PCC Proposal to Rename the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in "Intermediate Survey Methodology" to "Fundamentals of Survey Methodology" (Senate Document #18-19-31). Senators also reviewed and discussed the Revisions to the University of Maryland Policy on Suspension (Senate Document #17-18-07z) and the Resolution to Emphasize the University's Principal Missions During the Search for a New President (Senate Document #18-19-30).

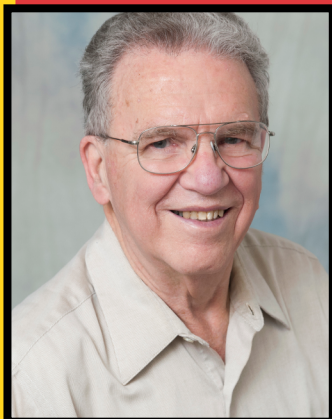
William Cohen, Dean for Undergraduate Studies, gave a special order presentation on the Proposed Changes to the University Honors Living-Learning Program.



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.



"The quality of the University depends not only on excellence at the departmental level, but also on excellence in the University's overall academic programs, policies, and practices. I have enjoyed working with talented and dedicated faculty, staff, and students on many Senate committees to meet new or changing issues and to continue to improve the educational opportunities at the University."

—Jerry Miller
Member of the Campus Affairs Committee

From the Senate Chair

April is the busiest month in the University Senate; it's the time when we complete this year's business and then set the stage for the next academic year. This will be a busy month for each of us as we attempt to juggle teaching, advising, and recruiting; faculty, staff, and student reviews; attending undergraduate and graduate research and awards ceremonies; and departmental committee meetings. In addition to making time to prepare for and then recover from Maryland Day, we all need to plan time to attend two Senate meetings this month.

Much of the Senate's work is not conducted on the floor but behind the scenes in our many and varied committees. When a committee receives a charge, it is also given a deadline to report back to the Senate. This year, the end date for Senate consideration was the last business day in March. Since the end of the semester is rapidly approaching, this end date is needed to ensure committee work is completed this academic year. There was a flurry of committee activity right after spring break as this year's work was completed in numerous committees. The full Senate now needs to discuss and vote on all of their recommendations.

At the same time, this is the month when we need to recruit new members for the Senate's ten standing committees. I encourage all members of the campus community to volunteer for committee service in the upcoming academic year. It is an excellent opportunity to make meaningful change at the University.

We also expect to hear more from Chancellor Caret about the upcoming Presidential Search this month. As we near the end of the legislative session in Annapolis, the Chancellor should finalize the selection of a search firm, membership of the Presidential Search Committee, and the date for an open forum on campus before the end of the semester. In that forum, students, faculty, and staff will have an opportunity to express their perspectives on key attributes of the next president.



The Senate's ten standing committees continue to make progress on all the charges they have received this year. The EDI Committee is considering the University's Policy on Inclusive Language. The Campus Affairs Committee continues to review the University's Procedures for the Use of Physical Facilities. The Campus Affairs Committee will also be conducting a similar review of the University's Policy on Use of Facilities by Non-University Users for Research-Related Activities. Learn more about our committees by visiting our website!

Committee News





Volunteer for a Senate Committee

April 1, 2019 – April 30, 2019

Do you want to be a part of the University's decision-making process? By serving on a Senate committee, you can participate in one of the largest and most influential governing bodies on campus. Committees do the Senate's heavy lifting. They review existing policies, propose new ones, and craft recommendations that help make the University an even better place to work and learn. You'll have an excellent opportunity to shape the proposals that will be considered by the full Senate.

The 10 standing committees are: Academic Procedures & Standards (APAS); Campus Affairs; Educational Affairs; Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG); Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI); Faculty Affairs; Programs, Courses, & Curricula (PCC); Staff Affairs; Student Affairs; and Student Conduct. You can find a brief description of each committee [here](#).

In recent years, committees have made recommendations to the Senate on important issues such as revisions to the Code of Academic Integrity, The Policies and Procedures on the Disclosure of Student Education Records, the Sexual Misconduct Policy, Expectations for Limited Enrollment Programs, and Providing Gender Inclusive Facilities. The Senate advises the President on these and other policy issues that directly affect the day-to-day functions of the University.

All active faculty and staff and all currently enrolled students are eligible to serve on a Senate committee. You do not have to be a Senator to serve on a committee. Committees meet approximately five times each semester and meetings are typically 60 or 90 minutes. Committee members are expected to attend meetings and review materials outside of meetings. Any additional committee work outside of meetings is voluntary. Committees do not meet during the summer or winter breaks.

Visit the Senate website and complete an online interest form or click the "Volunteer" button below. The volunteer system will ask you to log in using your University Directory ID & password before showing you the form. You'll be able to pick your top three committee choices from the list on the form (if there are no current vacancies for a particular committee, it will not be listed as an option). Volunteer forms and statements will be reviewed by the Senate's Committee on Committees. There are typically around 90 open vacancies on committees that must be filled each year and all those receiving a committee assignment will be notified over the summer.

We hope that you will volunteer to serve for the upcoming academic year!

VOLUNTEER



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 here.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Faculty Affairs Committee-4/17/19

Campus Affairs Committee-4/18/19

SEC-4/18/19

EDI Committee-4/19/19

Student Conduct Committee-4/19/19

Senate Meeting-4/24/19

Staff Affairs Committee-5/1/19

PCC Committee-5/3/19

CURRENT SENATE LEGISLATION

[Policy on Criminal Background Checks for Faculty and Staff Employees](#)

[Senate Document 18-19-36](#)

[Proposal to Review Policy and Practice Surrounding PTK Non-Renewals](#)

[Senate Document 18-19-33](#)

[Review of the University of Maryland College Park Procedures for the Use of Physical Facilities](#)

[Senate Document 18-19-10](#)

[Review of the University of Maryland, College Park Policy on Inclusive Language](#)

[Senate Document 18-19-06](#)

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

