



Senate Newsletter

NOTES FROM THE SENATE MEETING

At the March 6, 2019, Senate meeting, the Senate Chair-Elect, Dr. Pam Lanford, stepped in for Chair Walsh. She informed the Senate that the Nominations Committee is soliciting candidates for open positions on Senate-elected committees and councils. She encouraged Senators to run and noted that some of the positions do not require Senate membership. Additional information can be found on the [Senate website](#).

Philip Evers, Chair of the Course Evaluations Subcommittee of the Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee, spoke to the Senate about the subcommittee's progress in considering possible changes to the current course evaluation system. Senators discussed what recommendations could be made to help encourage more students to participate.

Senators reviewed and voted to approve the A. James Clark School of Engineering Plan of Organization (Senate Document #16-17-14), the Interim University of Maryland Procedures Related to Family and Medical Leave for Faculty (Senate Document #18-19-03) and Staff (Senate Document #18-19-04), as well as two PCC items.



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.



"Serving on the University Senate and Student Affairs Committee as the chair has taught me a tremendous amount about the University and the policies that are created to serve the best interests of the students, faculty, and staff. It has been an honor to be a part of such an important body on campus for the past two years."

– Christine Rhee

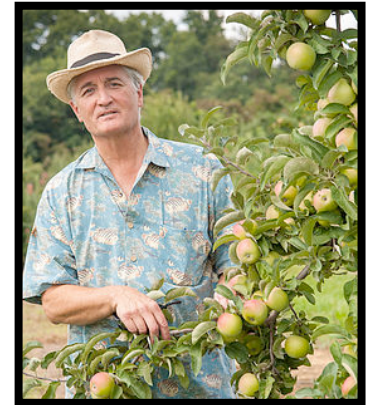
Student Senator & Chair of the Student Affairs Committee

From the Senate Chair

As we look forward to spring break and warmer weather, I realize I only have two months remaining as Senate Chair. During the past year, I learned that much of the difficult work of the Senate takes place in our committees. Their efforts have led to well-crafted proposals that gain approval after a few, mostly positive, comments from the floor.

To further this work over the upcoming year, the call for committee volunteers will be open in early April. While our committee chairs are Senators, most of the committee members are not. I would encourage you to consider volunteering and to encourage others who are not serving as Senators to volunteer. The Nominations Committee is also working to develop a slate of nominees for the Senate's elected committees and councils for the 2019–2020 academic year. Not all positions require Senate membership so I encourage you to consider serving even if your Senate term is ending.

In December the Senate Leadership began communicating with the Chancellor's Office to repair our relationship with the Board of Regents and ensure an orderly presidential transition. This process continued this week when Chancellor Caret held meetings with groups on campus to explain the presidential search process. He also announced plans for an open forum to be held later this month. Hopefully, you will be able to participate in this unique opportunity.



A blue ink signature of Chris Walsh.

Chris Walsh

Committee News



The Senate's ten standing committees continue to make progress on all the charges they have received this year. The APAS Committee is considering the current process and questions related to student course evaluations. The EDI Committee continues to review the University's Policy on Inclusive Language. The ERG Committee is considering a proposal on Enhancing Senate Input on University Planning and Resources. The Campus Affairs Committee is nearing completion of its work on the Use of Physical Facilities Charge.

Find out more about committee work on each [committee's page](#) or search [current legislation](#) online.



Volunteer for a Senate Committee

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 Policy 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.

Please consider volunteering on the Senate website in April!

April 1, 2019 – April 30, 2019

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 about five times each semester and meetings are typically an hour 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 in April and complete an online interest form. 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 on the form). Volunteer forms and statements will be reviewed by the Senate's Committee on Committees. There are typically around 90 vacancies on committees that must be filled each year. All those receiving a committee assignment will be notified over the summer.



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.

CURRENT SENATE LEGISLATION

[Review of the University of Maryland Non-Discrimination Policy and Procedures](#)

[Senate Document 18-19-16](#)

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

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

[Proposal to Establish a University Policy on Repeating Undergraduate Courses](#)

[Senate Document 18-19-09](#)

[Student Course Evaluation Improvement Project](#)

[Senate Document 16-17-24](#)

[Enhancing Senate Input on University Planning and Resources](#)

[Senate Document 17-18-20](#)

Click on any legislation item above for more details. To view all Senate Legislation: [Click Here](#)

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Nominations Committee-3/13/19

Campus Affairs Committee-3/28/19

Senate Executive Committee-3/26/19

Senate Meeting-4/4/19

Student Affairs Committee-4/11/19

Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting- 4/17/19

SEC Meeting- 4/18/19

Photos provided by:

John T. Consoli/University of Maryland and University Senate

