At the September 5, 2018, Senate Meeting, Senators reviewed the 2017–2018 Legislation Log (Senate Document #18–19–01) and approved the Committee & Council Slates (Senate Document #18–19–02). Senate Director Reka Montfort also gave an orientation for new and returning Senators.

Senators discussed and approved recommendations from the EDI Committee on Providing Gender–Inclusive Facilities (Senate Document #16–17–32), which were met with enthusiastic support, and approved the University Expectations for Limited Enrollment Programs (Senate Document #16–17–36) proposed by the Educational Affairs Committee.

The ERG Committee presented the Revisions to the College of Education Plan of Organization (Senate Document #13–14–05), which the Senate voted to approve as well.

Senators also discussed and approved a motion to charge the SEC with reviewing the outcomes of the Board of Regents’ investigations of the Department of Athletics, and with providing recommendations to the Senate and President Loh.

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.

"Since joining the University as an Assistant Professor in the College of Information Studies in 2012, I have had the privilege to participate in the University Senate in a variety of ways. From 2013–2016, I was the College of Information Studies’ (The iSchool) tenure–track faculty representative on the University Senate. From 2016–2018 I was a member of the Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Committee. This year, I am looking forward to beginning a two–year term on the Educational Affairs Committee. I have greatly appreciated these opportunities to meet students and colleagues from across the campus, to learn about UMD, and to help shape and position the University for continued growth and success into the future."

–Beth L. St. Jean
Faculty, Educational Affairs Committee Member
From the Senate Chair

Welcome back to campus and to the University Senate for the 2018–2019 academic year. First of all, I would like to thank all of the Senators for their willingness to serve on the Senate. Despite my many years on campus, I’m still amazed by the spirit of volunteerism of the faculty, staff, and students that powers the Senate. Senators are all busy people. Despite that workload, they have all volunteered to become Senators, Committee Chairs, and/or committee members.

At our recent meeting we learned that much of the Senate’s work is conducted by its standing committees. Many non–Senators also volunteer to serve on our committees and councils. This valuable committee work can take months, sometimes years, before being completed and reported on the Senate floor. For shared governance to be effective and our Senate meetings efficient, I encourage you to keep abreast of the different committee work before it comes to the floor. Senate business can be tracked on the Senate website. Staying aware of the committees’ ongoing business gives you the opportunity to discuss these matters with friends, colleagues, and departments before attending our monthly meetings.

While the beginning of the year is hopeful, we still need to recognize the tragic loss of one of our promising young student athletes, Jordan McNair. The Senate leadership met with President Loh in August to better understand the circumstances. We had a frank discussion about the steps being taken to investigate the matter and ensure the safety of our students in the future.

The Senate leadership considered additional ways we can address these issues, including reviewing outcomes of the investigations and providing recommendations for improved oversight. We also discussed these options with the Senate Executive Committee. At our September Senate meeting, Dr. Lanford, Chair–Elect, provided a heartfelt speech and presented a motion on behalf of the SEC that it be charged with reviewing the results of the Board of Regent’s investigation of the Athletic Department and consider appropriate recommendations. The Senate approved the motion. I hope this process will enhance the role of shared governance in shaping future athletics policies.

Volunteerism keeps the spirit of shared governance alive and healthy at the University of Maryland. I look forward to working with you all this year, and thank each and every one of you for your willingness to serve.

Chris Walsh

Committee News

The Senate’s ten standing committees are beginning their work for the year. Committees will review charges carrying over from last year and begin work on new charges. Find out more about their work by visiting each committee’s page or by searching current legislation online!
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 at: http://www.president.umd.edu/administration/policies

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Campus Affairs Committee - 9/18/18
Senate Executive Committee - 9/21/18
Student Affairs Committee - 9/21/18
Staff Affairs Committee - 9/21/18
Student Conduct Committee - 9/28/18
University Senate - 10/2/18
Faculty Affairs Committee - 10/3/18
Programs, Curricula, & Courses Committee - 10/5/17

CURRENT SENATE LEGISLATION

Providing Gender Inclusive Facilities
Senate Document 16–17–32

University Expectations for Limited Enrollment Programs
Senate Document 16–17–36

PCC Proposal to Establish a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Integrated Technology in Education
Senate Document 17–18–25

Proposal to Amend the UMD Policy and Procedures on the Disclosure of Student Education Records
Senate Document 17–18–16

http://senate.umd.edu/searchBills/view?billId=Document 17–18–08

Click on any legislation item above for more details. To view all Senate Legislation: Click Here

Photos provided by:
Beth St. Jean/University of Maryland and University Senate

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