



## **CALL TO ORDER**

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Chair Jarzynski called the meeting to order at 3:18 P.M.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, APRIL 3, 2024 MEETING**

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Chair Jarzynski asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the April 3, 2024, meeting; hearing none, Chair Jarzynski declared the minutes approved as distributed.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR (INFORMATION)**

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### Committee & Council Volunteer Period

Chair Jarzynski reported that the application to volunteer for one of 10 Senate standing committees and councils for the 2024-2025 academic year is open. He stated that volunteers need not be Senators and encouraged all Senators and non-Senators to volunteer for a committee or council. The deadline to volunteer is May 3, 2024. Those interested in volunteering should go to the [Senate website](#) to submit a volunteer statement, select three committee or council choices, and describe their interest and what they feel they can contribute. The Senate's Committee on Committees will then select volunteers to serve on each committee and will notify selected volunteers over the summer. Council volunteers will hear back in late summer.

### Update on Remaining Senate Meetings

Chair Jarzynski announced that this meeting is the final meeting for outgoing Senators. He thanked all outgoing Senators for their work on the Senate. He asked that all outgoing Senators raise their hands so that they could be acknowledged for all their contributions.

### Senate Transition Meeting

Chair Jarzynski stated that the Senate meeting on May 7th will be the Transition Meeting and will include all continuing and incoming Senators and the Deans. He noted that this will be his last meeting as Chair and at that meeting, Jordan Sly will take over as Senate Chair and the Senate will elect a new Chair-Elect.

### Nominations Committee Slates

Chair Jarzynski mentioned that all continuing and incoming Senators should have received the 2024 Nominations Committee Slates after the meeting, April 23, 2024. He added that outgoing Senators will not receive the slates. He asked all continuing and incoming Senators to please review the slates before the next Senate meeting on May 7th.

## **PCC PROPOSAL: RENAME THE “COLLEGE OF INFORMATION STUDIES” TO “COLLEGE OF INFORMATION” (SENATE DOCUMENT #23-24-29) (ACTION)**

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Chair Jarzynski invited Wendy Stickle, Chair of the Program, Curricula and Courses Committee (PCC) to present the proposal.

Stickle provided background and information on the proposal.

Chair Jarzynski thanked Stickle and opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Hassan Ibrahim, PTK, BGMT, expressed concern of the proposed name being too general, and suggested eliminating confusion by making sure to specify the colleges scope for graduate and undergraduate programs.

Dean Keith Marzullo, BGMT, responded that although the name appears to be too general, another option discussed was to rename the school to the “College of Information Science, Studies, and Engineering”, which in turn could create complexity and tension between colleges.

Mansoor Moaddel, TTK, BSOS, suggested describing the specificity of the mission to prospective students and faculty to avoid confusion of the college’s scope. Moaddel proposed renaming the college to be more specific, such as to “College of Information Technology”, since “Information” is a vast field.

Dean Marzullo responded that the “College of Information Studies” does not accurately encompass the entire scope the college offers, nor does “College of Information Technology” because the college also teaches the policy and science point of view, and that name doesn’t reflect those aspects. Dean Marzullo confirmed that with the rebranding, the issue of specificity and program collaborations with other colleges will be addressed.

Chinyere Osuji, TTK, BSOS, asked what is the proportion of schools that call themselves “iSchools”.

Dean Marzullo responded that six schools call themselves “iSchools” and approximately 50% of schools use “College of Information”. Six other schools use “Information Studies” in their name.

Chair Jarzynski asked for further questions or comments on the proposal.

Hearing none, Chair Jarzynski called for a vote on the proposal to change the name of the College of Information Studies to the College of Information. The result was 83 in favor, 18 opposed, and 9 abstentions. The proposal passed.

## **APAS REPORT: REVISION TO THE FINAL EXAM PROVISION IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICY ON THE CONDUCT OF UNDERGRADUATE COURSES AND STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (SENATE DOCUMENT #21-22-11) (ACTION)**

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Chair Jarzynski invited Amy Karlsson, Chair of the Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee, to present the committee's report.

Karlsson provided background and information on the report.

Chair Jarzynski thanked Karlsson and opened the floor to discussion of the report.

Mansoor Moaddel, TTK, BSOS, asked if students have reported feelings of overburden from final exams.

Karlsson responded that an official study on if students are overburdened has not been conducted but mentioned that there have been consultations with a few undergraduate student groups. The students have repeatedly reported a heavy burden of work. Due to a concern for the mental health of students, the revision to the policy language is recommended by the committee.

Chair-Elect Jordan Sly, TTK, LIBR, thanked the committee for their work, and introduced Laura DeMarco, a graduate student at the University of Maryland. DeMarco mentioned that as a former undergraduate student in ARHU and a current graduate student in INFO, she supports the requirement to remove the final exam, as it does not accurately reflect how well the students retain the information of the course. DeMarco asked if the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) community has been consulted with on the policy change.

Karlsson responded the committee did not specifically meet with any students who identify with having a disability or with Accessibility and Disability Services (ADS), but as with the current policy, they can work with implementing the policy and create solutions for the individual students in need. No issues are expected.

Chair Jarzynski asked for further questions or comments on the report.

Hearing none, Chair Jarzynski called for a vote on the revision to the final exam provision in the University of Maryland policy on the conduct of undergraduate courses and student grievance procedure. The result was 96 in favor, 5 opposed, and 9 abstentions. The proposal passed.

## **SPECIAL ORDER**

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### **Veronica Marin, Executive Secretary and Director, University Senate** ***Senator Discussion Platform***

Chair Jarzynski invited Veronica Marin, Executive Secretary and Director of the University Senate, to present.

Director Marin provided background and information on the request to create a Senator-to-Senator discussion platform.

Director Marin mentioned ELMS/Canvas will be used as the discussion platform. The discussion platform will be made available one week prior to the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Expectations and guides will be pinned at the top of each discussion board to promote inclusive language and adherence to codes of conduct. The discussion board will be closed for comment on the day of the meeting. Director Marin emphasized that any questions or concerns still need to be formally addressed to senate-admin@umd.edu.

Chair Jarzynski thanked Director Marin and opened the floor for questions or discussion.

Mohammad Hajiaghayi, TTK, CMNS, asked why ELMS/Canvas was decided on, and asked for clarification on how to raise questions directly for consideration.

Director Marin responded that any new topics may be discussed, but new business must still be formally brought up during the “New Business” portion of a Senate meeting. Director Marin emphasized that the discussion board should not be used as a formal platform.

Mohammad Hajiaghayi, TTK, CMNS, asked when the discussion platform will launch. Director Marin responded that it will be made available on April 30, 2024, one week prior to the next Senate meeting on May 7, 2024.

Debbie Simpkins, PTK, AGNR, asked if a discussion board will close in between Senate meetings. Director Marin responded that the discussion board leading up to the Senate meeting will close for comments on the day of the meeting, but Senators will still be able to view the comments and materials.

Chinyere Osuji, TTK, BSOS, asked if other entities on campus will have access to the discussion platform. Director Marin responded that the platform is only for Senator-to-Senator discussion, and no other entity on campus will have access.

Jeff Hollingsworth, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, DIT, asked if the discussions could be made available by Maryland’s Public Information Act (PIA) and requested the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Jay Rosello, respond. Rosello mentioned that the discussion platform may be subject to discovery by the MD PIA. Director Marin added that it will be investigated further.

Chair Jarzynski asked for further comments or questions.

Hearing none, Chair Jarzynski moved on to the next agenda item.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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There was no new business.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 P.M.