University Senate

April 6, 2017

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 117

Call to Order

Senate Chair Goodman called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m.

Special Order: Presidential Briefing

President Loh stated that he would like to use his time to answer questions directly from Senators.

Senator Walsh, faculty, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, asked about the future of the Purple Line.

President Loh responded that Governor Hogan had requested the money to fund the Purple Line. He noted that he had talked with Governor Hogan about it and noted that it is critical for the future of UMD and College Park. President Loh added that the Purple Line would be free throughout campus for any member of the University community.

Senator Stanley, undergraduate student, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences noted his appreciation for conducting a dialogue and introduced undergraduate student Colin Byrd.
Byrd mentioned the recent NCAA championship and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education accreditation. He asked why athletes with low academic profiles receive larger scholarships than students with high profiles.

President Loh responded that the Athletics Department would be the best place for him to direct his concerns.

Senator Lathrop, faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, asked about the recent closing of the College Park REI store.

President Loh responded that he was uncertain why the store closed.

Senator Soltan, faculty, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences asked about the corruption associated with the relationship between universities and athletics.

President Loh stated that corruption and cheating occurs everywhere, not just in athletics. He added that everyone is human and they all make mistakes.

Chair-Elect Falvey noted that President Loh had spoken to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) about the current state legislative session and asked if President Loh wanted to share anything with the Senate about the budget.
President Loh stated that there are significant cuts to the University System of Maryland (USM), including UMD. He stated that there are $12 million in cuts to UMD's fund balance and noted that one-time cuts are a victory over base-budget cuts. He also explained that UMD received

one of the best Capital budgets that we could have received and noted that one of the highest priorities is the chemistry building due to the poor quality of the current facilities.

Senator Knapp, undergraduate student, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences asked what the university can do to make sure student groups are able to thrive.

President Loh responded that he is concerned that the students did not vote in the recent elections. He noted that the March for Science is important because it is a march for something instead of protesting against something and added that he hopes many students will show up.

Senator Al-Mansur, graduate student, School of Public Health, stated that some of his constituents expressed concern over not being able to vote on Election Day because of academic obligations. He asked if the University could be closed on Election Day.

President Loh stated that the University would do everything possible to facilitate student voting in the 2018 elections.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Goodman asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 8, 2017 Senate meeting; hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Committee Volunteer Period

Chair Goodman noted that the online system to sign up to serve on one of the Senate's ten standing committees this coming year was now open. He added that volunteers do not need to be a Senator to be a member of one of these committees. They address topics related to students, faculty, staff affairs, educational and campus affairs. Goodman noted that the deadline to volunteer was May 1st and that those interested could go to the Senate website to submit a volunteer statement and pick their top three committee choices. He stated that the Senate's Committee on Committees will be selecting volunteers to serve on each committee and will notify selected volunteers over the summer.

Remaining Senate Meetings

Chair Goodman reminded Senators that there are two more Senate meetings this academic year. The next meeting will be held on April 19th. This will be the last business meeting of the semester for any outgoing Senators. He noted that the Senate expected the report from the Joint President/Senate Task Force on Sexual Assault Prevention to be presented at this meeting so it is important that we have a quorum to conduct business.

Chair Goodman reminded Senators that the May 4th Transition Senate Meeting would be for all continuing and incoming senators and would be his last meeting as Senate Chair. On May 4th, Senators will elect the next Chair-Elect, Dan Falvey will take over as Senate Chair, and Senators will then vote for the elected committees of the Senate. He noted that the names of candidates running for the various committees and their candidacy statements would be distributed on April 20th.

Chair's Remarks

Chair Goodman stated that there are many challenges facing the University including state budget cuts, proposed federal cuts, and the proposed elimination of a large portion of the country's research infrastructure. He explained that the United States has the strongest, largest, and most successful research and development system in the world. We get the majority of Nobel Prizes in physics, chemistry, medicine or physiology, and economics and we set the world standard for graduate education in nearly every field of science and engineering. The proposed federal budget cuts could have a substantial impact on the University due to a lack of funding to conduct research. One of the main cuts is to overhead which impacts our research because overhead covers technology and staff that help facilitate the grants.

Chair Goodman encouraged everyone to participate in the March for Science on April 22nd and the Celebration of American Science & Engineering (CASE) event taking place on campus on April 21st.

Chair Goodman noted that Vin Novara, past Senate Chair, would be serving as Senate Parliamentarian for the remainder of the semester.

Review of the Policy on Intellectual Property (Senate Doc. No. 10-11-36) (Action)

Robert Dooling, Chair of the Intellectual Property (IP) Subcommittee of the University Research Council presented the revised Intellectual Property Policy and provided background information on the history of the policy, the rationale for the revisions, and the changes since the last time the Policy was brought to the Senate on October 7, 2015.

Goodman opened the floor to discussion of the revised policy.

Senator Joyce, faculty, College of Education, stated that there seems to be a fine line on the definition of being directed to do the work. He gave examples, such as if the unit wants someone to create a new course and you decide to do it or if you are on a committee and they need someone to do some research, and asked if that is directing you to do something and how the policy would be applied in these cases.

Dooling responded that it is important to use common sense and encouraged faculty to ask the Office of General Counsel when there is confusion since they will know the answer.

Senator Lathrop, faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, commended the committee for its work on the revised IP Policy. He asked whether the Senate approved the current policy and wanted to add language noting that revisions are subject to approval by the Senate and the President.

Dooling asked Ann Bowden, Office of General Counsel, to respond.

Bowden stated that the policy already covers the necessary approval steps with the inclusion of the phrase "in accordance with University policy"

Senator Cleaveland, faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, noted that he is a faculty member in the Department of Computer Science and asked for further clarification on the University's ownership with regards to software.

Felicia Metz, Assistant Director, Office of Technology Commercialization, stated that the University owns patent rights if the software is patentable and that the University owns copyright based on the contract. If there are no conditions, the faculty member owns the rights.

Senator Al-Mansur, graduate student, School of Public Health, asked who owns data collected in data collection of a mass survey.

Dooling responded that if the survey is done using federal funds, the University owns the data.

Seeing no further discussion, Goodman called for a vote on the revised policy. The result was 97 in favor, 5 opposed, and 3 abstentions. **The motion to approve the revised policy passed.**

The University of Maryland Climate Action Plan 2.0 (Senate Doc. No. 16-17-30) (Action)

Carlo Colella, Vice President for Administration and Finance & Chair of the Sustainability Council, presented the University of Maryland Climate Action Plan 2.0 and provided background information on revisions to the Plan since the last approval.

Goodman opened the floor to discussion of the revised Plan.

Senator Delwiche, faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, noted that the Plan focuses on carbon dioxide reduction and asked if there are efforts to address methane and other greenhouse gases.

Colella responded that there were efforts to address other greenhouse gases, but it is not the main effort.

Scott Lupin, Director of the Office of Sustainability, noted that they convert everything to carbon dioxide equivalents and do focus on all the greenhouse gases.

Dean Orr, School of Public Policy, thanked Colella and the Sustainability Council for their efforts. He noted the importance of all institutions working on climate to demonstrate their commitment. He added that it is important to continue the educational and operational components and ensure that the Plan is a living document. He added that change happens fast in climate research and that it is important to stay up to date.

Senator Kramer, undergraduate student, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, stated that she is a student in the Environmental Science and Technology program and noted that the program is spread over several departments and was not even available as a major choice when she applied for graduation. She noted that the environmental science programs are new and asked if there were plans to improve the programs.

Colella responded that there are plans for improvement, which is included in the education section of the revised Plan.

Senator Falasca, exempt staff, Division of Research, asked why there was not more solar energy incorporated into the University's Plan.

Colella responded that the University is constantly in exploration of solar and other renewable energies but noted that it is also important to be sustainable in terms of money. Renewable energies are not always cost-effective, and the University is working to incorporate renewable energy whenever possible.

Seeing no further discussion, Goodman called for a vote on the Climate Action Plan 2.0. The result was 96 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to approve the revised Plan passed.**

Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases (Senate Doc. No. 14-15-03) (Action)

Charles Delwiche, Chair of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee presented the Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases and provided background information.

Goodman opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Senator Callaghan, faculty, College of Arts and Humanities, stated that she uses her middle name and appreciates this effort as it was difficult for her to make the necessary changes.

Senator Lathrop, faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, stated his support for the proposal and asked if the committee considered issues with hyphenated last names.

Delwiche responded that he had several colleagues with name issues such as having a number of names that do not fit in the University's system or having a passport issued in another country where the names are printed in a different order than what is preferred. He noted that all of these issues were addressed in the recommendations.

Senator Falasca, exempt staff, Division of Research, asked if the policy is going to be enforceable and asked what happens if someone fails to honor the wishes of an individual exercising their rights in this policy.

Delwiche responded that the report talks about the importance of education and that there is a significant need for improved education on the issues addressed in the report such as making a gender judgment call and arbitrary assigning of honorifics based on perceived gender identity. The committee expressed concern about the expense of the education. The first step is education at the level of individual offices. He noted that the LGBT Equity Center has a trans awareness project which the committee very strongly supports. The committee also advocates for increased resources.

Senator Starace, undergraduate student, College of Arts and Humanities, stated that this was the first policy that his constituents had contacted him about and noted that this shows how much they really care about this issue.

Delwiche added that the Student Government Association (SGA) had passed a resolution in support of this policy, which is attached to the report.

Seeing no further discussion, Goodman called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 93 in favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Special Order of the Day
William Bowerman
Professor & Chair, Environmental Science & Technology & Chair, Information Technology Council
ITC Report for 2016-2017

William Bowerman discussed the work of the IT Council this year. He explained the progress that had been made in improving wireless service on campus, creating Council bylaws, and improving classroom technology. He also encouraged Senators to volunteer to serve on the IT Council as some members are rotating off this year.

Goodman opened the floor to questions; seeing none, he thanked Bowerman for his presentation.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Chair Goodman adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.