University Senate

April 20, 2016

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 94

Call to Order

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

Special Order: Presidential Briefing

President Loh spoke about the Review of Shared Governance Procedure Implementation report and noted that American universities are unique in that they have shared governance. He expressed his commitment to shared governance and asked how it can be made stronger. He explained that shared governance means the sharing of the governance of the institution with all of its stakeholder and noted that the more informed the senators are, the deeper the input is.

President Loh added that shared governance also includes meeting with students, department chairs, faculty, and staff and that the University Senate is not the only part of shared governance. He explained that the primary governance body is the Board of Regents (BOR) which delegates authority to the President. The President then delegates authority to the vice presidents, the deans, etc. The people in leadership roles need to engage in shared governance with all constituents. The Senate has the primary, but not sole, responsibility to engage with constituents. Shared governance is not shared management, and no single group has the primary responsibility for the entire process.

President Loh noted that the Senate looks at University-wide issues and that governance should be from a university-wide perspective. He spoke about the senator orientation program at the University of Washington and suggested that the Senate consider implementing a similar model. He also expressed the importance of relationships in shared governance.

Brown opened the floor to questions.

Senator Egan, faculty, School of Public Policy, asked President Loh for a recent example of a challenge related to shared governance.

President Loh responded that changing the name of Byrd Stadium was challenging. He stated that the representative working group gave pros and cons, but no recommendation. He noted the criticism of the issue not being brought to the Senate and commented on the sensitivity of the matter. He gave a second example of the role of shared governance on how the Athletics Department uses Big Ten revenue. He stated that he was not sure that it was the role of the Senate or even the President. He added that it is not just about

governance but also about leadership. He noted the importance of an orientation for senators on University processes and administrative leadership.

Chair Brown thanked President Loh for his remarks and reminded Senators that they would receive a link following the meeting to provide feedback.

Approval of the April 7, 2016, Senate Minutes (Action)

Chair Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 7, 2016, meeting; hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Committee Volunteer Period

Chair Brown explained that the volunteer period for Senate standing committees had recently opened. He encouraged senators to reach out to the campus community about participating in shared governance and encourage volunteers to serve on a committee by going to the Senate website: www.senate.umd.edu. He especially encouraged faculty to volunteer and engage their colleagues as well. The deadline to volunteer is April 30, 2016.

Remaining Senate Meetings

Chair Brown reminded Senators that there are now two more Senate meetings this academic year. Our next meeting will be held on April 28th and will be held in 0220 Jimenez Hall. This will now be the last business meeting of the semester for any outgoing Senators. He noted that the Senate would have several time-sensitive issues presented at this meeting and expressed importance of a quorum to conduct business. He stated that he hoped that many of the senators would be able to attend this important meeting.

The May 5th Transition Senate Meeting will be for all continuing and incoming senators. On May 5th, the Senate will elect its next Chair-Elect, Jordan Goodman will take over as Chair, and the Senate will then vote for the elected committees of the Senate. Brown noted that the names of candidates running for the various committees and their candidacy statements would be distributed on April 21st.

Review of Shared Governance Procedure Implementation (Senate Doc. No. 15-16-09) (Information)

Chair Brown presented the Review of Shared Governance Procedure Implementation (Senate Doc. No. 15-16-09). He reminded Senators that the Senate leadership developed a series of actionable procedures to increase communication, inclusiveness, transparency, engagement, awareness, and trust. These procedures were intended to improve not only communication and relationships between the Senate, SEC, and the administration, but also to improve our working efficiencies and enhance the awareness of the campus community on the impact that the Senate's activities have on their daily lives and the importance of shared governance. At the October 10, 2015, Senate meeting, the University Senate approved a motion to charge the SEC with reviewing the implementation of these procedures and reporting back to the Senate on their findings no later than the April 2016 Senate meeting. Specifically, the SEC should be charged with determining:

- Is there improved engagement with the President and Provost?

- Is there improved opportunity to provide informed input and feedback for substantive issues that impact faculty, staff, and students?
- Is there is an improvement in awareness and communication within the campus, colleges, schools, and units regarding the activities of the Senate? Has this led to increased engagement?

The report included in your materials is an information item that details the results of that review. While engagement between the Senate and the administration, and between the Senate and the campus community, has improved over the past year, more work still needs to be done. The procedures put in place this year should be reviewed, revised, and expanded to meet the needs of the campus and its constituents. The Senate leadership should continue to work with the administration to improve procedures to enhance shared governance at the University and continue to develop new ways to engage the campus community in the work of the Senate.

PCC Proposal to Establish a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy (Senate Doc. No. 15-16-27) (Action)

Andrew Harris, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the PCC Proposal to Establish a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and provided background information.

Chair Brown opened the floor for discussion of the proposal.

Dean Orr, School of Public Policy, stated that the proposal is more than just creating an undergraduate program. It recognizes the growth and vibrancy of the discipline.

Patrick Ronk, Student Government Association President, applauded the merits of the proposal and noted that he was drawn to the University because of the existing five-year program and added that a full undergraduate degree would make the University more attractive to students. He was in full support of the proposal and added that it would be good for both prospective and current students.

Dean Orr introduced Natalie Tran, undergraduate student, Robert H. Smith School of Business. She noted that she wanted to major in Public Policy, but still chose to attend UMD and wished the option had been available to her. She attempted to combine Business and Government and Politics, but that did not fulfill what she was looking for. She said the Public Policy program would have enhanced her experience and believes it is important.

Senator Egan introduced Katherine Swanson, undergraduate student, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. She noted her disappointment in the lack of a Public Policy program and added that she was involved in the Rawlings Fellowship program and other courses in public policy.

Senator Soltan, faculty, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, stated that he supports a public policy program, but his issue was with the kind of major that this proposal provides. He read a statement from Christopher Morris, Chair, Department of Philosophy, who expressed concern over the department's lack of inclusion in the discussion of the proposal.

Senator Egan noted that there is interest in future collaboration and an interdisciplinary approach. He added that a program has been implemented with the Schools and Colleges to encourage this. He stated his appreciation for the outreach and enthusiasm for continued efforts.

Irwin Morris, Chair of the Department of Government and Politics, stated he was excited about the opportunity for a joint major, which did not work out. He noted that other ideas were considered and added that there were other examples of joint appointments between other departments and Public Policy. He felt that it is more important to have core programs and not just focus areas. He added that it is more important for the program to be good than for it to be done fast and expressed his want for more collaboration in the core classes focused on government and politics.

Senator Egan introduced Phil Joyce, Senior Associate Dean, School of Public Policy, and the chair of the PCC committee in the School. He spoke about the process for the development of the proposal and stressed the importance of doing it now to stay competitive. He added that the benefit of delaying the proposal is not worth the cost. He added that Public Policy has been around for 50 years as a discipline and the School has existed for 35. The School has nationally recognized faculty that represent 12 disciplines and stressed the School's commitment to interdisciplinary education. The program was unanimously approved by the faculty and the need to cooperate with Government and Politics should not be a reason to delay the proposal. The School has met with the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Government and Politics leaders extensively. There will be future collaboration between the School and Government and Politics.

Harris responded that PCC had considered the issues carefully and noted that many proposals have overlap, and that there is value in having some, but not too much, overlap.

Dean Ball, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, stated that he supports the development of the Public Policy program and noted that he and Dean Orr are dedicated to working together to increase choice in the program. He stated that a specialization in policy and politics might be interesting and urged Dean Orr to collaborate on the support of the new program.

Senator Kaplan, faculty, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, supported Dean Ball and noted that he would like to see more collaboration and cooperative relationships in departments with overlap, such as Economics, going forward.

Dean Orr introduced Nathan Hultman, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy. He spoke to his interdisciplinary background of physics, climate, and policy and underscored that the diversity of faculty attracts a diversity of students from many fields.

Hearing no further discussion, Brown called for a vote on the proposal. The result Was 66 in favor, 14 opposed, and 7 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Suggested Revision to the Academic Clemency Policy (Senate Doc. No. 14-15-29) (Action)

Charles Delwiche, Chair of the Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee, presented the Suggested Revision to the Academic Clemency Policy and provided background information.

Chair Brown opened the floor for discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 77 in favor, 3 opposed, and 5 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Revision of the University of Maryland Undergraduate Student Grievance Procedure (Senate Doc. No. 14-15-22) (Action)

Chair Brown reminded Senators that this item was brought to the December 9, 2015, Senate meeting and was recommitted to the Educational Affairs Committee for further review.

Madlen Simon, Chair of the Educational Affairs Committee, presented the Revision to the University of Maryland Undergraduate Student Grievance Procedure and provided background information.

Chair Brown opened the floor for discussion of the proposal.

Senator Berger, undergraduate student, School of Engineering, stated the importance of the policy and gave perspective from the Student Affairs Committee survey.

Senator Englehart, part-time graduate students, raised concerns about removing section B.1.e. There shall be a reasonable approach to the subject that attempts to make the student aware of the existence of different points of view. He added that nothing should be required but should be allowable.

Simon responded that the Office of the General Counsel advised that the statement should be removed from the policy because it limits academic freedom for faculty. She gave examples of evolution and climate change and noted that the policy does not remove the ability for students to bring different perspectives.

Senator Blase, undergraduate student, School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, proposed an amendment to when reading day is allowed.

Chair Brown clarified that the limitation is outlined in the BOR policy and thus could not be amended.

Ann Smith, Assistant Dean, Office of Undergraduate Studies, noted that section 1.h provides information regarding course syllabus grievance.

Hearing no further discussion, Brown called for a vote on the proposal. The result

was 78 in favor, 3 opposed, and 2 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Review of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) Plan of Organization (Senate Doc. No. 10-11-56) (Action)

Jess Jacobson, Chair of the Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee, presented the Review of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) Plan of Organization and provided background information.

Chair Brown opened the floor for discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 71 in favor, 2 opposed, and 4 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.