

University Senate

November 13, 2013

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 103

Call to Order

Senate Chair Novara called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Novara asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 10, 2013 meeting. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Plan of Organization Feedback

Novara stated that the Plan of Organization Review Committee was elected at the October Senate meeting and subsequently charged with conducting a thorough review of the Plan and making suggestions for revisions where necessary.

The Committee will conduct its review during the 2013-2014 academic year. PORC will work with administrative offices of the University to collect institutional data regarding population trends of the various constituent groups on campus. The Committee will ensure that any recent changes to administrative structures and titles are reflected in the revised document. In addition, PORC will review changes to Senate and standing committee memberships and consider issues of representation since the last review was conducted.

The committee is in the beginning stages of its review and would like to gather broad feedback from the campus community. Novara encouraged senators to send their thoughts on issues related to the Committee's charge by sending an email to porcfeedback@umd.edu. All feedback will be reviewed by the Committee and kept confidential. The deadline to submit comments is Monday, November 25, 2013.

Campus Safety Survey

Novara stated that the Senate Campus Affairs Committee is charged with gathering community input on safety and security issues at the University. In past years, the committee has held an annual Campus Safety Forum, and has submitted an informational report to the Senate to fulfill its charge. This year, the

committee would like to gather feedback from the Senate to identify top safety concerns or issues.

The committee has created a brief four-question survey available on the Senate website (senate.umd.edu), and asks that all Senators provide feedback on behalf of their constituents. The committee expects that with the senators' participation, it will be able to address its charge in a meaningful way. Novara encouraged senators to visit the Senate webpage to participate in the survey.

BOR Staff Awards

Novara stated that the Staff Affairs Committee is currently accepting nominations for the prestigious Board of Regents' Staff Awards. Eight individuals within the University System of Maryland will be selected as award recipients, including one non-exempt and one exempt staff member for each of the four award categories. Recipients will receive a \$1,000 award and system-wide recognition. Nomination packages must be submitted to the Senate Office by Friday, December 20th. Novara encouraged senators to support fellow staff colleagues and nominate a staff member for an award. He asked senators to contact the Senate Office or visit the Senate website for more information. He stated that this is an excellent opportunity for our staff employees to be recognized for the amazing work that they do.

CIC Governance Conference

Novara stated that he and Reka Montfort attended the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Faculty Governance Leaders Conference at Indiana University. This was the first time that the UMD sent a contingent representing the University Senate. The conference took place over two days and featured presentations from an assortment of administrators at Indiana on topics including the future of shared governance, scholarly communications, diversity, graduate education, and interacting with trustees and regents. From meeting with our new colleagues, we discovered that the other CIC governance bodies are facing many of the same issues that we are -- such as non-tenure track faculty concerns, diversity, and even parking. At the conclusion of the conference there was a brainstorming session looking to future conferences and how we can keep some action moving during the interim. Montfort and her counterparts in the CIC are working with shared governance leaders by developing a "blueprint" for collaboration throughout the year as well as a structure for the host institution to follow when planning future conferences. The 2014 conference will be held at Ohio State University.

Special Order of the Day
Wallace D. Loh
President of the University of Maryland, College Park
2013 State of the Campus Address

Chair Novara welcomed President Loh to present his address. President Loh thanked Novara and the Senate for the opportunity to address them and thanked everyone for attending.

New Administrators

President Loh introduced Alexander Triantis, Dean of the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Martin Wollesen, the new Executive Director of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. He also introduced Kelley Bishop, the new Director of the University Career Center. Loh also recognized the President of the Student Government Association (SGA) Samantha Zwerling and her cabinet. He noted that Zwerling was elected by her peers in the CIC to organize the Congressional lobbying effort on behalf of all of the CIC student governments.

Excellence at the University

Loh stated that the state of the campus is strong and will continue to be because of the excellence of the members of our community. The faculty and staff are the lifeblood of the University, and our reputation is also shaped by the quality of our students and excellence of our graduates.

Agenda for 2020

Loh announced his agenda for 2020, which included transformative excellence in education, research, and the arts, as well as the redevelopment of the Route 1 corridor leading to campus in College Park.

Transformative excellence in undergraduate education will include how to educate more, educate better, and educate cheaper. We are increasing the number of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) graduates, which aligns with national and State trends. We have received State funding for an additional 300 STEM majors, which will be phased in over the next three years. We are also providing a better learning experience in order to increase our graduation rates. As of 2013, our graduation rate climbed from 82% to 84% and our goal by 2020 is to reach 90%. We will have smaller classes by investing money into reducing the size of introductory courses, increasing the number of living and learning communities, and expanding experiential opportunities. We will reimagine doctoral education by rethinking the curriculum (*i.e.*, the number of years of required courses), rethinking the requirements for a PhD, and deciding how best to prepare our students for careers outside academia.

Technology and digital education will be part of the solution to educate more affordably. The University has created a new learning transformation center to combine efforts from the excellent faculty, our information technology resources, and learning analytics and assessment. This venture will dramatically increase the number of online courses, MOOC (massive open online courses) courses, and blended education.

Loh highlighted the achievements of several faculty including S. James Gates who received the National Medal of Science from President Obama, the twenty-two faculty who were involved in the discovery of the “God Particle,” and many other accomplishments. Transformation in research will include investing in faculty, research facilities, and strategic partnerships. In the last three years, we have hired 262 new tenured/tenure-track faculty, with a 60 person net increase in faculty (\$9M faculty investment per year). We have also hired an additional 88 new research faculty. Loh raised concerns about the “revolving door” where faculty hired are not being promoted or retained at a high rate, especially for minority faculty. We have invested resources to level the rates based on gender, so we will need to make a similar investment for minority faculty. A new data center with a super computer (10th fastest computer) to support faculty research will be ready in the spring of 2014. We are investing approximately \$600M in research facilities to support the research enterprise of the university by 2020.

Loh commented that strategic partnerships with other universities, the federal government, and the private sector are integral parts of our future. He noted that the MPower Initiative with the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) has generated 40 potential joint appointments; 66 joint proposals, including \$18M for a tobacco research center on regulatory science; a new Institute for Health-Related Informatics and Bio-Imaging; and joint efforts in biotechnology. Loh stated that the University is investing \$13M and 10 new faculty in the Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research (IBBR) in Shady Grove with UMB. He noted his recent meeting with the Presidents of UMB, Johns Hopkins University, the Director of the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST), and the CEOs and boards of MedImmune and AstraZeneca to collaborate in basic research, incubate startup companies, and accelerate that into the next generation of experimental therapeutics. The goal is to make the I-270 corridor one of the top five hubs for biotechnology in the country. The challenges include what Loh terms “the red threat” (the red ink or continued deficit by the federal government), which has manifested itself in the current sequestration process.

Loh commented on transformative excellence in the arts by noting the proposed partnership with the Corcoran Gallery of Art. This partnership would allow the University to elevate the standing of the arts to include new majors, while magnifying our presence in the Nation’s Capital, and providing access to a new pool of donors. We will know in the next 2-3 months whether this partnership will go forward.

Loh commented on plans to transform the main street of College Park. In order to bring more faculty and staff to College Park, we are providing access to better education through the College Park Academy, an increased sense of safety with additional police officers, vehicles, and security cameras, and an exchange of land to build 20-30 faculty houses in Calvert Hills. He also mentioned plans for a new hotel, the demolition of the Book Exchange for a new apartment complex and retail space, property that has been bequeathed to the University, and the

Knox Village development that will begin construction during the summer of 2014. By 2020 there will be mixed-use of new facilities coexisting with retail stores. The one outstanding problem is the continued and increasingly projected gridlock anticipated on Route 1 by 2030.

Construction Initiatives

Loh noted plans for several new buildings on campus including a new residence hall near Van Munching Hall (Prince Frederick Hall opening in fall 2014), the St. John Teaching and Learning Center (opening in 2016), the College Park Academy (a new public charter school in College Park), and plans for a new bioengineering building (breaking ground late fall 2014). He also noted the impending opening of the new Physical Sciences Complex in April 2014. The University is working on plans for a new biosciences research support facility for faculty offices and labs. New chemistry labs will be included in the St. John Teaching and Learning Center and the Chemistry building will be renovated.

Budget Concerns

Because of sequestration, our University has lost \$38M since last March. Our federal funding has decreased by 7%. If there is no solution, by next January, sequestration will be even deeper. We are lobbying on behalf of science, technology, and innovation. We are working with the Deans to develop a new strategic budgeting process by which fund balances will be invested in priorities in education and research. We will continue to develop strategic partnerships such as Siemens' gift of the Product Life Management (PLM) software that will transform advanced manufacturing in the College of Engineering. We are hiring 30-40 new people in University Relations to help raise money for the University.

Loh noted that Faculty and staff would receive a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 3% in January 2014, an average merit increase of 2.5% in April 2014, and potentially another average 2.5% merit increase in July 2014. Earlier this summer, the State was projecting a surplus but now is projecting a deficit of \$400M. We have been asked to prepare a 1% budget reduction.

President Loh stated that transformation is not easy or quick and is not without resistance. He pledged to work with the University Senate to create a greater University of Maryland by 2020.

Novara thanked President Loh for his presentation. There were no questions from the floor.

PCC Proposal to Establish a New Area of Concentration in Physical Activity for the Master of Public Health (Senate Doc. No. 13-14-08) (Action)

Marilee Lindemann, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the proposal to establish a new area of concentration in

Physical Activity for the Master of Public Health and provided background information.

Novara opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 81 in favor, 2 opposed, and 3 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

PCC Proposal to Establish a Doctoral Program in Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (TLPL) (Senate Doc. No. 13-14-09) (Action)

Marilee Lindemann, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the proposal to establish a doctoral program in Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (TLPL) and provided background information.

Novara opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 82 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

New Business

Senator MacDevitt, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, stated that he was disheartened by the video presented at the October 2013 Senate Meeting by Peter Weiler, Vice President for University Relations. He had raised concerns about the “masculine” message conveyed in the video. MacDevitt stated that he had been in contact with Brian Ullmann, Assistant Vice President of Marketing and Communications, who confirmed that the video would be revised to incorporate positive images of women.

Adjournment

Senate Chair Novara adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.