



University Senate CHARGE

Date:	December 5, 2011
To:	Kenneth Fleischmann Chair, Elections, Representation, & Governance Committee
From:	Eric Kasischke Chair, University Senate 
Subject:	Representation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on the University Senate
Senate Document #:	11-12-23
Deadline:	March 30, 2012

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requests that the Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee review the attached proposal, "Representation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on the University Senate," and evaluate whether the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) should be given representation on the Senate and its committees and, if needed, recommend appropriate changes to the Senate Bylaws.

Specifically, we ask that you:

1. Consider whether the Director of Athletics should be made an ex-officio member of the Senate and whether that seat should be voting or non-voting status.
2. Consider whether coaches should be given a seat on the Senate. In the course of your review, we ask that you research the history of senate representation given to the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI).
3. If appropriate, consider whether coaches should be given a faculty senator seat or a single-member constituency seat.
4. Consider whether the Chair of the Coaches Council should be given an ex-officio seat on the Campus Affairs Committee or other appropriate senate committee.
5. Consider whether the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Student Athletes Advisory Council (SAAC) should be given an ex-officio seat on the Student Affairs, Student Conduct, or other appropriate senate committees.

We ask that you submit your report and recommendations to the Senate Office no later than March 30, 2012. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Reka Montfort in the Senate Office, extension 5-5804.



University Senate PROPOSAL FORM

Name:	Kevin Anderson, Director of Athletics
Date:	November 17, 2011
Title of Proposal:	Representation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on the University Senate
Phone Number:	X40013
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Campus Address:	2618 Comcast Center
Unit/Department/College:	Intercollegiate Athletics
Constituency (faculty, staff, undergraduate, graduate):	Administration
Description of issue/concern/policy in question:	<p>The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) would like to be more centrally engaged in the campus. ICA is currently composed of 763 student athletes and 27 coaches of our athletic teams. The coaches in effect are teaching and mentoring student-athletes at the University in addition to coaching them.</p> <p>The coaches in Athletics would like an opportunity to become more involved in the affairs of campus. Missy Meharg, Head Coach of the Women's Field Hockey Team and Chair of the Coaches Council volunteered to serve on the Campus Affairs Committee. At the time, the President's Office made the assessment that coaches should be considered as part of the "faculty" constituency. Coach Meharg was given a seat on the committee for the 2011-2013 years and has been an active member of the committee. When the committee discussed the potential helmet policy this year, Coach Meharg was able to give them insight on the rationale for the recent Athletics requirement that all student-athletes wear a helmet when operating motorized scooters. It is this type of perspective that may be useful to the Senate. However, not having permanent ex-officio seat on the committee may not guarantee that involvement.</p> <p>The students and coaches involved in the athletics program are members of the campus community that are not officially represented on the University Senate. Representation on the Senate and its committees would give Athletics a pathway to bring campus issues to the Senate and a voice in the decisions made on our campus.</p>

<p>Description of action/changes you would like to see implemented and why:</p>	<p>ICA would like the Senate to consider allowing representation of members of Athletics on both the Senate and its committees as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Director of Athletics could be made a voting or non-voting ex-officio of the Senate. 2. The coaches could be allowed to elect a single seat as a “faculty” senator or as a “single-member constituency” senator on the Senate. 3. The Chair of the Coaches Council could be added to the membership of the Campus Affairs Committee as an ex-officio member. 4. The Chair of the Student Athletes Advisory Council (SAAC) could be added to the membership of the Student Affairs Committee as an ex-officio member. 5. The Vice Chair of SAAC could be added to the membership of the Student Conduct Committee as ex-officio member.
<p>Suggestions for how your proposal could be put into practice:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Senate could amend its Bylaws to include a coach on the Senate as a single-member constituency senator. 2. The Senate could consider adding a coach as a “faculty” senator on the Senate in the Plan of Organization when it is reviewed next. 3. The Senate could amend its Bylaws to include the Chair of the Coaches Council as an ex-officio representative on the Campus Affairs Committee. 4. The Senate could amend its Bylaws to include the Chair and Vice-Chair of SAAC as ex-officio representatives on the Student Affairs and Student Conduct Committees.
<p>Additional Information:</p>	<p>N/A</p>