



## University Senate PROPOSAL FORM

<b>Name:</b>	Eric S. Kasischke
<b>Date:</b>	4 September
<b>Title of Proposal:</b>	A proposal for the University of Maryland to join the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics
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<b>Constituency:</b>	Faculty
<b>Description of issue/concern/policy in question:</b>	<p>Over the past several years, UMCP has experienced dramatic changes to its Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (DIA) driven by the need to bring expenses in alignment with revenues (e.g., balancing the budget). This process not only highlighted the need for implementing more realistic approaches for reviewing the financial state of the DIA, but also stimulated extensive discussions between the Administration and the Senate Executive Committee on the role of intercollegiate athletics at UMCP, as well as discussions between Senate leadership and the Athletic Director on his desire to continue to expand efforts to integrate the student athletes and staff of the DIA into the University community. As a result of these recent events, during the 2011/2012 academic year, the Senate Executive Committee resumed the practice of scheduling an annual meeting with the Chair of the Athletic Council and also met with the Athletic Director in order to provide a review of ongoing issues associated with intercollegiate athletics at UMCP.</p> <p>The University's Athletic Council also provides a means for University faculty and staff to advise the President on policy matters affecting intercollegiate athletics on an ongoing basis, including providing faculty input and participation required by the ACC and NCAA. This Council includes faculty and staff representatives elected by the University Senate.</p> <p>While UMCP controls the operation of intercollegiate athletics on campus, many of the forces driving the operation of athletics at major universities are externally driven, in particular the continuous</p>

	<p>rise in the size of television revenues for broadcast rights, and the demand by alumni, students, and others for the fielding of top-ranked teams, especially in football and basketball. This combination has resulted in rapidly rising costs for intercollegiate athletics, in particular in costs associated with hiring and retaining coaches and providing state-of-the-art athletic facilities. In many cases, Athletic Departments have developed a large degree of autonomy in their operations, where in extreme cases, the lack of oversight has resulted in severe repercussions for the University.</p> <p>There have been efforts directed towards identifying the reforms needed for the nation's intercollegiate athletic system, most notably, the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, which issued its latest report in June 2010 (see <a href="http://www.knightcommission.org/">http://www.knightcommission.org/</a>). In 2003, the Commission On Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) was formed to provide a forum for representatives of senate faculties for developing and supporting strategies for reforms in intercollegiate athletics (see <a href="http://blogs.comm.psu.edu/thecoa/">http://blogs.comm.psu.edu/thecoa/</a>). The members of COIA are restricted to the 115 members of the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS). There are currently 59 members of COIA, with five from the ACC.</p>
<p><b>Description of action/changes you would like to see implemented and why:</b></p>	<p>I am recommending that the University of Maryland apply for COIA membership. Over the past year, President Loh has expressed his support for reform of intercollegiate athletics, but has also noted that formulating and implementing such reforms will require activities at the national scale, especially from FBS institutes. Joining COIA will provide the opportunity for the University Senate to participate in discussions and activities that are needed for this reform to occur.</p>
<p><b>Suggestions for how your proposal could be put into practice:</b></p>	<p>According to article I.1 of the COIA Charter (see attachment A), joining the COIA requires of a vote of the University's senate membership. I am proposing that the University of Maryland Senate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approves joining the Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics.</li> <li>2. Develops a procedure for electing the liaison between the University Senate and COIA. In addition to participating in all communications with COIA and attending annual COIA meetings, this COIA Liaison could also be responsible for preparing an annual report to the Senate</li> <li>3. Develop terms of reference for continuous communication between the COIA Liaison and the Senate Executive Committee in developing a consensus on COIA proposals.</li> <li>4. Request funds needed to support attendance by the COIA Liaison at COIA meetings.</li> <li>5. Request that the COIA Liaison be made an <i>ex officio member</i> of the Athletic Commission.</li> </ol>

<b>Additional Information:</b>	

*Please send your completed form and any supporting documents to [senate-admin@umd.edu](mailto:senate-admin@umd.edu)  
or University of Maryland Senate Office, 1100 Marie Mount Hall,  
College Park, MD 20742-7541. Thank you!*