Date:	March 10, 2017
To:	Philip Evers Chair, Academic Procedures & Standards
From:	Jordan A. Goodman Chair, University Senate
Subject:	Undergraduate Admissions Procedures Related to Criminal Background
Senate Document #:	16-17-29
Deadline:	February 9, 2018

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requests that the Academic Procedures & Standards (APAS) Committee consider issues related to asking potential undergraduate applicants to report criminal history in the admissions process.

Specifically, we ask that you:

1. Review any questions related to criminal background on the University of Maryland undergraduate admissions application.

2. Review undergraduate admissions applications questions and related procedures at peer institutions and other Big 10 institutions to understand their processes for reporting of criminal background information during the admissions process.

3. Consult with a representative from the Undergraduate Admissions Office to understand the current admissions process.

4. Consult with a representative from the Office of Student Conduct to understand its role in evaluating applicants who report past criminal history.

5. Consider whether including a question related to criminal background could discourage prospective students from applying to the university.

6. Consider the potential impact of this type of question on applicants from underrepresented minority groups.

7. Consult with the University's Office of General Counsel on any proposed changes.

8.   If appropriate, recommend whether the current admissions processes should be revised.

We ask that you submit your report and recommendations to the Senate Office no later than February 9, 2018. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Reka Montfort in the Senate Office at 301-405-5804 or reka@umd.edu.

JAG/rm