



**Review of the University of Maryland Policy and Procedures for the
Establishment and Review of Centers and Institutes
(Senate Document #17-18-12)
Research Council | Chair: George Hurtt**

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and Senate Chair Lanford request that the Research Council review the University of Maryland Policy & Procedures for the Establishment and Review of Centers & Institutes ([IV-1.00\[A\]](#)).

Specifically, it asks that you:

1. Review the report and recommendations provided by the Research Institute Advisory Committee.
2. Review similar policies on the establishment and review of centers & institutes at Big 10 and other peer institutions by reviewing existing information and doing additional research, as needed.
3. Review data on the number, size, structure, and administration of existing centers & institutes at the University, including those established for retention purposes, and consider their variations and missions.
4. Review best practice models in those colleges that have developed new guidelines for their institutes.
5. Review the definitions of the types of centers & institutes in the current policy and suggest whether they should be revised.
6. Consult with a representative of the Office of the Provost.
7. Consult with faculty and graduate students actively engaged in interdisciplinary research within centers and institutes.
8. Consult with the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee.
9. Consider whether the current policy is aligned with our educational and research missions.
10. Consider the role of graduate students in centers and institutes and the impact of potential organizational changes on their research, especially for those in interdisciplinary programs, dual doctorates, or masters/PhD programs.
11. Consider whether the establishment of centers and institutes should include sunset provisions.

12. Review the current and proposed procedures for the periodic review of centers & institutes and consider whether the policy should be revised.
13. Consider the proposal to initiate new centers and institutes with a probationary status before attaining permanent status and recommend whether it is appropriate for the University.
14. Provide a preliminary update on findings to the University Senate.
15. Consult with a representative of the Office of General Counsel on any proposed changes to the University's policy.
16. If appropriate, recommend whether University policy should be revised and submit recommendations for Senate consideration.

We ask that you submit a report to the Senate Office no later than **March 30, 2020**. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Reka Montfort in the Senate Office, extension 5-5804.