



Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the April Senate Meeting

At the April 4, 2013 Senate meeting the Senate voted in favor of the **implementation of the Policy on Smoking at USM Institutions**; the policy will officially go into effect on July 1, 2013. The Senate also voted in favor of a **proposal to establish a Master of Finance program** in the School of Business. Bradley Hatfield, Chair of the **Joint Provost/Senate Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure (APT) Guidelines Task Force**, then spoke to the Senate about the work of the APT Task Force and solicited **feedback on the Task Force's charge**. Following this discussion, the Senate reviewed the **Non-Tenure-Track (NTT) Faculty Policies and Procedures** report, and voted to accept the

findings in the report as identifying areas of concern that required attention and action; the Senate agreed that the report recommendations should be reviewed independently by the suitable Senate committees, revised as each committee deemed appropriate, and returned individually to the Senate for final consideration. The Senate then approved the **Proposal to Change the Committee on the Review of Student Fees (CRSF) Operating Procedure**, as well as a report on the **Calculation of Commencement Honors**. Finally, the Senate voted in favor of revisions to the **College of Behavioral and Social Sciences** and the **Philip Merrill College of Journalism** Plans of Organization.



The Senate is one of the largest and most powerful governing bodies on campus.

University Senate = Shared Governance.
Faculty, staff, students, and administrators work together to better our University.

*The Senate debates and votes on policy-related issues and other governing aspects of the University. The Senate **directly** advises the University President.*



Since joining the Senate I have had the opportunity to serve on the Educational Affairs Committee, the Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee, and a joint task force with the president's office. Little about the University of Maryland makes me more proud than serving on a body that values the voices of all our community members: faculty, staff, and students.

-Patrick Warfield, Faculty

The work of the Senate committees is winding down for the 2012-2013 academic year. The **Campus Affairs Committee** held its annual **Campus Safety Forum** on March 12, 2013; the Senate will review the Safety Forum Report at its upcoming meeting on April 17th. The **Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee** submitted its report for **Senate Executive Committee (SEC)** consideration on the **Procedures for Review of Alleged Arbitrary and Capricious Grading**. The **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee** recently received approval to extend the review of its charge on the **Alignment of Procurement Contracts with UM Non-Discrimination Values** into the fall 2013 semester. The **Sexual Harassment Task Force** will present a progress report to the SEC in April; the Task Force intends to present its final report to the SEC and Senate in fall 2013. Any additional committee work that is not completed by the committees this spring will automatically be carried over into the fall 2013 semester.



From the Senate Chair

Our April meeting was rather packed since our March meeting has been canceled because of snow. The Senate is to be commended for the extensive agenda we covered and the legislation enacted upon. Thank you Terrapin Senators!

The first important item was the passage of the implementation plan for the USM Smoking Policy, which will be instituted July 1, 2013. We then heard from the Chair of the Joint Provost/Senate Task Force on APT issues, Bradley Hatfield (Chair of Kinesiology), who took questions about and suggestions for the Task Force work. Of key concern to our Maryland community was the Non-Tenure-Track (NTT) Task Force report, which the Senate voted to receive with the understanding that each specific recommendation of the report would be assigned to the most appropriate Senate committee, which will then come back with individual proposals on which the Senate will vote. The NTT Task Force is heartily commended for its exhaustive review and thorough report. As many of you know from the article in the Chronicle of Higher Education, Maryland is emerging as a national leader in crafting fair policies for NTT faculty.

Our Senate meetings are open, and we hope to see you when we take up a proposal to modify the membership of the Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee to include a representative of the Registrar, and a review of Coursera, often mentioned but too rarely discussed or reviewed in depth. Hope to see you April 17th!

Martha Nell Smith



Committee News

Upcoming Meetings

4/17/13: Senate Mtg

4/18/13: Staff Affairs Mtg

4/19/13: EDI Mtg

4/19/13: SEC Mtg

4/26/13: APAS Mtg

4/29/13: Gen. Ed. Mtg

4/29/13: Faculty Affairs Mtg

4/30/13: Campus Affairs Mtg

For a complete schedule of Senate and Committee meetings [click here](#)



Do you want to be more involved with the University? **Volunteer to serve on a Senate committee during the 2013-2014 academic year!** Many of the details involved in campus policy are first formulated within the eleven standing Senate committees. Senate committees research and deliberate on campus concerns, and report their findings and recommendations to the full Senate throughout the year. You can play an important role in shared governance through the committee process. Please consider volunteering to serve on a Senate committee for the upcoming academic year (2013-2014). **The Committee Preference Period is open March 25 – April 19, 2013.**

To volunteer for a Senate committee click on the “Volunteer for a Committee” button below to submit your application, or visit www.senate.umd.edu. You will be asked to log-in using your University directory ID & password, which will route you to a committee preference form. Simply mark your top three committee choices and submit an optional statement as to why you want to serve (you will only be allowed to select committees with current vacancies in your constituency). Please note that all faculty and staff will serve a two-year term, while students will serve a one-year term on committees. If you are a continuing member of a committee, you do not have to complete this form. A list of all Senate committees and information about the work they do can be found at: <http://www.senate.umd.edu/committees/>.

Please note that you do not have to be a Senator to serve on a Senate committee. All committee preference forms will be reviewed by the Senate's elected Committee on Committees. Those who receive a committee assignment will be notified by July 1, 2013.

The deadline to submit your committee preference form is Friday, April 19, 2013. Please feel free to contact the Senate Office at senate-admin@umd.edu or 301-405-5805 with any questions or technical difficulties.



Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

IT Council Structure

Senate Document 12-13-45

Clarification of University APT Policy Regarding Emeritus Status for Research Faculty

Senate Document 12-13-42

Review of Faculty Salary Inequities

Senate Document 12-13-50

An Assessment of Shared Governance at the University of Maryland

Senate Document 12-13-39

Review of the Evidentiary Standards in the Code of Student Conduct

Senate Document 12-13-30

Alignment of Procurement Contracts with UMD Non-Discrimination Values

Senate Document 12-13-29

Click on any legislation item above for more details. To view all Senate Legislation: **Click Here**

Any member of the campus community may submit a proposal to the University Senate to review University policies* and procedures or to suggest the creation and establishment of new ones.

To submit an idea or proposal to the Senate, click on a link below to download a blank proposal form in Word or as a PDF.

[Proposal Form \(Word Version\)](#)

[Proposal Form \(PDF Version\)](#)

[Sample Proposal](#)

* A manual of current University policies can be found here: <http://www.president.umd.edu/policies>

Contact Us

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