



Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the December Senate Meeting

At the December 8, 2011 Senate meeting the Senate approved A bill titled **Preservation of Shared Governance During Reorganizations, Consolidations, and Mergers**, which seeks to codify and protect the values of shared governance at UMD. The Senate also voted to accept the **2011-2012 Nominations Committee Slate**; this committee is responsible for soliciting nominations for next year's Executive Committee, Chair-Elect, and other University committees and councils. The Senate engaged in an extensive discussion of the **Request to Review Domestic Partner Benefits**; the bill was ultimately passed with the condition that a review of system-wide opposite-sex domestic partner benefits

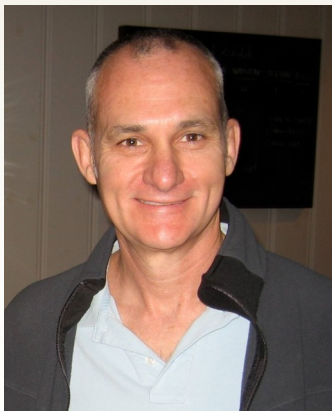
also be conducted (the original bill pertains to same-sex domestic partners only). The **Request for Non-Exempt Staff Issues and Development Review** bill, which calls for the creation of a joint Presidential/Senate task force or working group to investigate issues relating to non-exempt staff, was also passed. The Senate voted in favor of updating the **procedural requirements pertaining to sexual harassment and sexual violence** in the **Code of Student Conduct**, to comply with directives from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. Finally, in response to recent protests at other Universities, the Senate passed a resolution supporting UMD's commitment to fostering a peaceful and respectful climate for all.



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.*

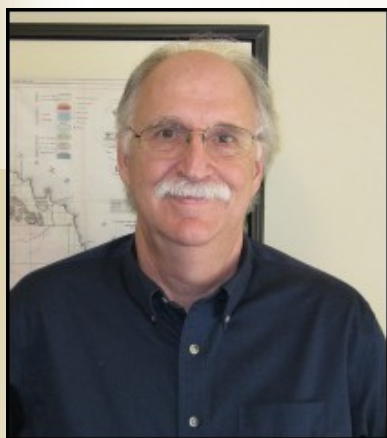


Serving as a member of the Senate is very rewarding and it provides a unique opportunity to shape the University's policies.

– Terry Owen, Faculty
Past EDI Committee Chair

The Senate Committees have only a few more months to complete their work for the 2011–2012 Senate session. The **Faculty Affairs Committee** is finishing its review of the **Activation of the USM Clinical Faculty Titles**, as well as the **Policies on the Employment of Adjunct Faculty**. The **Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee** is currently drafting a proposed policy for the creation of a **Student Initiated Courses (SICs)** program. At the beginning of the spring semester, the **Staff Affairs Committee** will begin its coordination of the bi-annual election for representatives to serve on the **Council of University System Staff (CUSS)**; eligible staff members will be contacted with information regarding how to run for a seat and how to vote for their representatives of this important University council. The **Campus Affairs Committee** will organize and

host its annual Safety Forum in the spring which will focus on the issue of sexual assault. Additionally, the **Student Conduct Committee (SCC)** is putting the finishing touches on a draft **Academic Integrity** online tutorial, which it hopes to pilot in the spring of 2012.



The December meeting marked the end of a very productive fall for the University Senate. I want to thank all Senators for their efforts, especially the Chairs and members of the various Senate Committees. During the Spring 2012 term, the Senate will also be voting on a number of recommendations based on

From the Senate Chair

proposals that are currently under review in Senate Committees, and we look forward to the input from all Senators during future meetings. As discussed by President Loh in his annual address to the Senate, the University faces many challenges resulting from the current state of the economy. The members of the University Senate look forward to working with the administration in coming up with approaches to meet these challenges. I want to extend to everyone my best wishes for the holiday season.

Eric Kasischke



Committee News

Senate Meeting Schedule Spring 2012

2/8/12: Senate Mtg

3/8/12: Senate Mtg

4/4/12: Senate Mtg

4/19/12: Senate Mtg

5/3/12: Senate Mtg

For a complete schedule
[Click Here](#)

Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

Representation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on the University Senate

[Senate Document 11-12-23](#)

Expansion of Promoting Responsible Action in Medical Emergencies

[Senate Document 11-12-22](#)

Activation of the USM Clinical Faculty Titles

[Senate Document 11-12-20](#)

Proposal to Change the Committee on the Review of Student Fees (CRSF) Operating Procedure

[Senate Document 11-12-12](#)

Reform of the University APT Committee Procedures

[Senate Document 11-12-03](#)

Faculty Satisfaction with Student Academic Dishonesty Review Procedures

[Senate Document 10-11-59](#)

Click on any legislation item above for more details. To view all 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>

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