



Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the December Senate Meeting

At the December 11, 2014 Senate meeting the Senate received the **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Committee's** report on **Civility in the UMD Workplace Environment**, and it voted to approve the **2014-2015 Nominations Committee Slate**. The Senate also voted to approve two PCC proposals presented by Dr. Elizabeth Beise, a member of the **Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee**. The **PCC Proposal to Establish a New Area of Concentration in Music Education for the Ph.D. in Music** recommended transferring an existing concentration in Music Education from the College of Education to the College of Arts and Humanities, and establishing it as an area of

concentration in the School of Music's existing Ph.D. in Music program. The **PCC Proposal to Establish a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages** proposed establishing a 12-credit certificate within the College of Education's Department of Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (TLPL), to meet the increasing needs of current K-12 teachers for pedagogical and theoretical knowledge related to teaching English language learners in their classes. The Senate also heard a Special Order presentation from Dr. Patricia Steele, Dean of the University Libraries, who presented on the diverse resources available to the campus community through the University Libraries.



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.



"I have enjoyed the opportunity the Senate has given me to work on policies dealing with issues like family friendly work conditions, faculty promotion and tenure, and non-tenure track appointments, which I hope have had a positive impact. If not for our effective system of shared governance, they would not have been created and implemented."

**-Ellin Scholnick,
Past Faculty Affairs Committee Chair**





Senate Elections

The University Senate Office holds elections each year to fill Senator vacancies from the following constituencies: exempt and non-exempt staff, full-time and part-time lecturers, emeritus faculty, research faculty, adjunct faculty/professors of the practice, graduate students, and undergraduate students.

These elections take place online on the Senate **website**. Each staff category elects one representative for every 200 full-time employees for three-year terms. Undergraduate students are elected by their colleges, with one representative for every 1000 full-time undergraduate majors, for a one-year term. Graduate students elect 10 representatives at large for one-year terms. Full-time and part-time lecturers, contingent staff, emeritus faculty, research faculty, adjunct faculty/professors of the practice, and athletic head coaches each elect one representative from among their ranks for a one-year term. Tenured and tenure-track faculty are elected within each College or School.



January 20, 2015: *Candidacy Period Opens*

February 6, 2015: *Candidacy Period Closes*

February 23, 2015: *Election Period Opens*

March 6, 2015: *Election Period Closes*

Visit the Senate Elections Webpage for More Information!



The Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) Committee will hold two town hall meetings at the beginning of the 2015 spring semester to collect feedback from the campus community, which will assist with its review of the **Interim Sexual Misconduct Policy**. The **Student Conduct Committee (SCC)** is in the process of finalizing its recommendations for the **Hazing Policy Revision**. The **Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee** is continuing its review of **Mid-Semester and Early Warning Grades Policies and Procedures**. The **Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC)** is reviewing the **UM Guidelines for Appointment, Evaluation, and Promotion of Professional Track Faculty**. Also, the **Staff Affairs Committee** has collected nominations for the annual **Board of Regents Staff Awards** and will be sending recommendations to President Loh in January.



Committee News



From the Senate Chair

The Senate has done an excellent job during the fall semester and I congratulate our Senators for their hard work. We now look forward to the spring where a number of issues that have been working through our committees will come to the floor.

Among these, the Plan of Organization Review Committee will soon have its recommendations finished, which will guide our shared governance process for the next decade.

We also have difficult times ahead for our State and higher education. There are large projected deficits in the state budget and likely cuts at the federal level that drive Maryland's economic structure. To deal with these issues, President Loh has announced the formation of a new task force that will be charged with recommending actions for long-term financial stability that are guided by our institution's goals and values. Those of us who have spent many years at the University of Maryland know that this will not be an easy task, but is one in which I have confidence in our ability to provide innovative solutions. The Senate will support this task force and work with the administration so we can continue on our path to become one of the top ten public institutions in the nation.

-Senate Chair, Donald Webster

Spring 2015 Senate Meetings

February 11, 2015
(Wednesday)

March 5, 2015
(Thursday)

April 8, 2015
(Wednesday)

April 23, 2015
(Thursday)

May 6, 2015
(Wednesday)

For a complete schedule of Senate and Committee meetings [Click Here](#)



Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

Addition of a User Experience Working Group to the IT Council
Senate Document 14-15-10

UM Guidelines for Appointment, Evaluation, and Promotion of Professional Track Faculty
Senate Document 14-15-09

Public Access Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program
Senate Document 14-15-05

Policies and Procedures Governing Preferred/Primary Names and Sex/Gender Markers in University Databases
Senate Document 14-15-03

Review of Mid-Semester and Early Warning Grades Policies and Procedures
Senate Document 13-14-36

Revisions to the College of Education (EDUC) Plan of Organization
Senate Document 13-14-05

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>

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