Notes from the November Senate Meeting

At the November 5, 2014 Senate meeting, University President Wallace D. Loh presented the State of the Campus Address. President Loh discussed the University’s efforts to meet the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan for the University of Maryland: Transforming Maryland – Higher Expectations. He highlighted the newly developed Advanced Cybersecurity Experiences for Students (ACES) living and learning program in the University Honors College in Prince Frederick Hall, and the development of the First-Year Innovation & Research Experience (FIRE) program. He also discussed the increase in joint faculty appointments with the University of Maryland, Baltimore as a result of MPower, the strategic partnership between our two universities. He noted the increase in development in the City of College Park, caused in part by the strategic development of University facilities (more on pg. 3). Following the address, the Senate voted to approve the Code of Academic Integrity Changes presented by Kasey Moyes, Chair of the Student Conduct Committee (SCC). The changes will enable the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) to better serve the students and the campus community, as well as to help streamline the case review process. The Senate also held an election to replace two staff representatives on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

“The Senate has allowed me to become more actively involved by providing me the opportunity to understand and address concerns regarding UMD alongside faculty, staff, and students. From my experiences as a first-year member on the Senate and the Committee on Committees, I have gained a fundamental understanding about shared governance and a greater appreciation for all the work my fellow members have put in to constantly improve the UMD Community.”

-Adip Bhargav, Undergraduate Senator and Committee on Committees Member

http://www senate.umd.edu  senate-admin@umd.edu  (301)405-5805

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.
A Council of University System Staff (CUSS) initiative, the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents (BOR) Staff Awards represent the highest honor bestowed by the BOR for the achievements of Exempt and Non-Exempt Staff employees at institutions within USM. These awards are presented to staff members who have demonstrated excellence in one of four distinct areas:

1. Exceptional Contribution to the Institution and/or Unit to Which the Person Belongs
2. Outstanding Service to Students in an Academic or Residential Environment
3. Extraordinary Public Service to the University or Greater Community
4. Effectiveness and Efficiency (Academic Transformation & Administrative Transformation)

Eight individuals within the University System will be chosen to receive awards: one non-exempt and one exempt staff member for each of the first three categories, and one staff member (exempt or non-exempt) for both parts of the Effectiveness and Efficiency category. Each recipient will receive a $1,000.00 stipend and formal recognition by the BOR. Award recipients will be announced in early summer 2015 and presented at a BOR reception in fall 2015.

The nomination process is detailed on the Senate website. Nomination packages must include a complete cover sheet (PDF Version or Word Version), nomination letter (two-page limit), position description using a template (PDF Version or Word Version) signed by the nominee’s supervisor (no resumes), and three one-page letters of recommendation. Supporting materials may also be submitted with the packet (three to five pages maximum). The Senate website also provides a list of Nominator Coaches who are available to answer questions and provide assistance as packages are prepared. Nomination packages should be submitted to senate-admin@umd.edu.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS:
Friday, December 12, 2014
To: Gloria Aparicio Blackwell, Chair
Senate Staff Affairs Committee

The Senate Staff Affairs Committee is the body designated to coordinate the BOR Staff Awards Nominations Process at the University of Maryland College Park. The Staff Affairs Committee will fully consider all nominees and make recommendations to President Loh shortly thereafter. He will select and forward the final campus nominees to CUSS by the end of January. CUSS will review nomination packages from all USM institutions and will submit its final awards recommendations to the Board of Regents in late spring 2015.
President Wallace D. Loh
State of the Campus Address

“This entering class has the most credentialed and talented freshmen in the history of this University. We have brought in one-third of the best high school graduates in the state.”

“In 2014 we had a graduation rate of 85%, the highest in the history of the University.”

“According to the assessments of the National Research Council… 35 of our graduate programs are ranked as the top 25 in the country.”

“The most significant strategic partnership we have established since I started is with the University of Maryland, Baltimore… MPower. Faculty with shared interests are coming together and submitting proposals.”

“In the past three years our patent filings and invention disclosures have soared by 60.”
The **Student Conduct Committee (SCC)** is completing its review of the **Hazing Policy**. The **Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee** is reviewing a proposal to add a **User Experience Working Group to the IT Council**. The **Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC)** has been charged with reviewing the **Guidelines for Appointment, Evaluation, and Promotion of Professional Track Faculty**. The **Staff Affairs Committee** is currently facilitating the annual nominations process for the **Board of Regents Staff Awards** (see pg. 2). In addition, the **Committee on Committees** has submitted a slate of candidates for the incoming **Nominations Committee** to be elected at the December 11, 2014 Senate meeting.

![Image of Committee News](image)

**From the Senate Chair**

Last month, Past Chair Vin Novara, Senate Director Reka Montfort, and I attended the annual meeting of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Faculty Governance Leaders meeting hosted by The Ohio State University. It commenced with a welcoming reception in the recently renovated main library that sets a high standard for excellence in design with a large, open, and spacious main section and glass walls so that the stacks throughout the floors may be viewed.

The program that followed over the next two days included discussions on **Best Practices for Faculty Leaders, Setting Academic Priorities, and Faculty Involvement in Searches**. A panel covered the important subject of Tackling College Affordability that included a variety of OSU initiatives as well as projects that they are developing to privatize some current university assets. As one would expect with our Big Ten peers, the meeting also included a discussion with a team of leaders who discussed the Changing NCAA Landscape on a variety of issues that referenced many of the current and future areas of concern in college athletics.

We are now fully engaged with the Big Ten as well as the CIC, which is providing us with a multitude of benefits as well as high caliber teams to play. As a special note, I want to congratulate Senator Missy Meharg, who just received recognition as the Big Ten Field Hockey Coach of the Year.

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-Senate Chair, Donald Webster

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**Upcoming Meetings**

- 11/13/14: ERG Mtg
- 11/14/14: Student Affairs Mtg
- 11/17/14: SEC Mtg
- 11/19/14: Ed Affairs Mtg
- 12/01/14: SCC Mtg
- 12/02/14: APAS Mtg
- 12/03/14: Campus Affairs Mtg
- 12/04/14: EDI Mtg

For a complete schedule, [Click Here](link)
Submit a Proposal to the Senate

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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