Notes from the October Senate Meeting

At the October 9th Senate meeting, Devin Ellis, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC), presented the committee’s recommendations on two issues before the Senate. In its Consideration of an Overall Title for Non-Tenure Track Faculty, the FAC worked to develop a title that recognizes the diverse contributions of these faculty to the institution. The FAC proposed that the title “professional track faculty” replace “non-tenure track faculty” in University policies and procedures. The Senate voted to approve the new overall title. In its recommendations on the Clarification of University APT Policy Regarding Emeritus Status for Research Faculty, the FAC proposed amending the University of Maryland Policy on Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure of Faculty to expand eligibility for emeritus status to include NTT faculty in the top level of a title series. After much deliberation, the Senate voted to approve an amendment to expand eligibility to NTT faculty in the second level of a title series as well. Senators applauded the committee’s thoughtful review, and after a thorough discussion, the Senate voted to approve the amended recommendations for eligibility for emeritus status. The next Senate meeting will be on November 5th in the Colony Ballroom of Stamp Student Union and President Loh will deliver the State of the Campus Address.

“I have enjoyed my term as a Senator as it has permitted me to meet and work with great people across the University community, and it has provided me with an opportunity to learn about and participate in the shared governance of the campus.”

-Patrick McCluskey, Faculty Senator and Past Faculty Affairs Committee Member

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.
The Campus Affairs Committee has been charged with reviewing the University’s Public Access Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program. The Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee is reviewing the College of Education Plan of Organization and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) Plan of Organization. The Student Conduct Committee (SCC) finalized its review of the changes to the Code of Academic Integrity and is beginning its review of the Hazing Policy. The Committee on Committees is currently creating a slate of candidates for the incoming Nominations Committee, which will solicit nominees for the 2015-2016 Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and other important positions during the spring semester.

From the Senate Chair

Your Senate works for you. Evidence of this was apparent at our recent meetings. In September, recommendations of the Task Force on APT were approved. The October Senate meeting resulted in the passage of two significant documents. The first changed the title of “non-tenure track faculty” to “professional track faculty” to create a more affirmative and accurate tone, while the second created pathways for professional track faculty to become emeriti faculty. This will help to fully develop career pathways for these faculty. Previously, the Senate had recommended creating a uniform title structure for NTT faculty as well as creating promotion steps similar to tenure track faculty.

Several weeks ago I traveled to Ohio State University for the annual meeting of the Committee for Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Governance Leaders, a benefit of our move to the Big Ten. Meeting with our peers from other senates, we shared information on topics including: best practices for faculty leaders; setting academic priorities; faculty involvement in administrative searches; tackling college affordability; and the changing landscape of the NCAA. I will look forward to attending the next meeting in Illinois and again sharing information with our peers on topics important to all our universities.

-Senate Chair, Donald Webster

Upcoming Meetings

10/16/14: APAS Mtg
10/17/14: Gen Ed Mtg
10/17/14: Faculty Affairs Mtg
10/22/14: Ed Affairs Mtg
10/24/14: SEC Mtg
10/27/14: Student Affairs Mtg
10/27/14: ERG Mtg
10/28/14: Staff Affairs Mtg

For a complete schedule Click Here
Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

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

Code of Academic Integrity Changes
Senate Document 13-14-26

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

Review of Civility in the UMD Workplace Environment
Senate Document 12-13-54

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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