



Senate E-newsletter

Discover the University Senate

Notes from the September Senate Meeting

At the September 2011 Senate meeting, Senators reviewed the 2010–2011 Senate Legislation Log (**Senate Doc. 11-12-01**) and voted to approve the 2011–2012 Standing Committee and Council Slates (**Senate Doc. 11-12-02**). Senators voted in favor of amending the University's smoking policy to extend the 'no smoking' area around buildings from 15 feet to 25 feet (**Senate Doc. 08-09-15**). Senators also voted to approve an amendment to the recently created Policy for a Student's Medically Necessitated Absence From Class

(**Senate Doc. 11-12-07**); this linguistic amendment clarifies the policy's requirement that, "For a medically necessitated absence from a single lecture, recitation, or lab, students may submit a self-signed note to their instructor." Lastly, the Senate endorsed a draft of the 2011–2030 **Facilities Master Plan**. This 123-page document includes an overview of UMD's mission, current and future characteristics, a land and facilities assessment, a plan foundation and framework, major recommendations, and implementation strategies.



The Senate is a great place to learn about how the University runs and work with members of the entire campus community to improve it.

– Dror Yuravlivker
Graduate Student Senator, BSOS



*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 completed its report on a **campus-wide helmet policy** and submitted it to the **Senate Executive Committee (SEC)** for review; the Senate will vote on the recommendations at the October 20, 2011 Senate meeting. Three proposals regarding the University's **sexual harassment policy** have been submitted to the Senate Office and will be charged to committees for review. **APAS** will send a final recommendation on weighted **plus/minus grading for GPA calculation** to the SEC in November. The President of the **Student Government Association (SGA)** submitted a proposal to clarify and improve the **student class selection process**; the **Educational Affairs Committee** will be charged with reviewing this proposal. The **Student Conduct Committee** is creating an online academic integrity tutorial for

students at UMD. The **Faculty Affairs Committee** will begin its review of **policies for Adjunct Faculty** in October, while the **ERG Committee** will continue to review several Plans of Organization. Also, be on the lookout for outreach from the **Staff Affairs Committee** about nominating outstanding non-exempt and exempt staff members for a Board of Regents' Staff Award!



From the Senate Chair-Elect

Greetings fellow citizens. I have served the University of Maryland as a Professor of English specializing in American poetry, feminist and queer theory, and digital humanities, and for the last several years as a Senator. I am deeply honored to serve our constituencies as Chair-Elect and then Chair of the Senate next year. This is a very exciting time for us, as we consider the possibilities

presented by the possible merger of UMCP-UMB, and address issues of lecturers and research faculty. I am enjoying working with faculty, staff, and students on these large local issues that intersect with national concerns. Please contact me, the Senate Chair Eric Kasischke, or the Senate Office with any matter you wish us to consider.

Martha Nell Smith



Committee News

Upcoming Meetings

10/3/11: ERG Mtg

10/4/11: General Ed. Mtg

10/5/11: EDI Mtg

10/6/11: Student Affairs Mtg

10/6/11: Faculty Affairs Mtg

10/7/11: PCC Mtg

10/7/11: Ed. Affairs Mtg

10/20/11: Senate Mtg

For a complete schedule
[Click Here](#)

Submit a Proposal to the Senate

Current Senate Legislation:

Review of Domestic Partner Benefits

Senate Document 10-11-34

Student-Initiated Courses

Senate Document 10-11-38

Making UMD a Great Place to Work Initiative

Senate Document 10-11-55

Faculty Satisfaction with Student Academic Dishonesty Honor Review Procedures

Senate Document 10-11-59

Reform of the University APT Committee Procedures

Senate Document 11-12-03

Review of the UM Policy & Procedures on Sexual Harassment

Senate Document 11-12-05

Proposal to Clarify and Improve Student Class Selection

Senate Document 11-12-11

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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