The 2013–2014 University Senate

The first fall semester Senate meeting was held on September 18th in the Stamp Student Union Atrium. The Senate reviewed the 2012–2013 Legislation Log and the Proposal for the University of Maryland to join COIA. Additionally, the Senate voted to approve the IT Council Structure, the 2013–2014 Committee & Council Slates, the Revisions to the School of Public Policy Plan of Organization, and the Revisions to the University of Maryland Libraries Plan of Organization. There will be a number of special order presentations during the 2013–2014 academic year. Peter Weiler, Vice President of University Relations, will speak at the October meeting regarding the recently completed Capital Campaign. President Wallace D. Loh will present the State of the Campus Address at the November meeting. Later in the year Carlo Colella, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance, will present on major projects planned for the University. Senate meetings are open to the public and members of the campus community are encouraged to attend. Follow the Senate on Twitter and “like” the Senate on Facebook to receive meeting reminders and other Senate updates and news. Don’t forget that Senate Staff are available during business hours to answer any questions.

Being on the Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee has really broadened my understanding of MOUs at the University and other matters that we address. It has given me a chance to give back to the University.

-Catherine Fisanich,
ERG Committee Member

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Thank you
Marvin Breslow

The University Senate would like to thank former Parliamentarian Marvin Breslow for his twelve years of exceptionally dedicated service. We look forward to his continued engagement with the University Senate as Parliamentarian Emeritus and Senate Historian. He will serve as a guiding voice while Kenneth Holum assumes the position of Parliamentarian.

This summer saw a considerable change for the University Senate. After nearly twelve years as Parliamentarian, Marvin Breslow, Professor Emeritus from History and Past Chair of the Senate (1997-1998), transitioned into a new role: Parliamentarian Emeritus.

Marvin came to the University of Maryland in 1962 after earning an undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska and graduate degrees from Harvard University, whereupon he shared his erudition and fascination with Tudor and Stuart England with two generations of students. He was an exemplary faculty member in the History Department for 38 years and was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus following his retirement in 2000. Marvin has chaired numerous University and Senate committees, as well as serving multiple elected terms on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC).

Given his remarkable service to the Senate, the SEC voted unanimously to award Marvin the title of Parliamentarian Emeritus. Marvin will also continue to hold the honorific of Senate Historian, as few others possess such a deep knowledge of the University Senate’s history. In his capacity as Parliamentarian Emeritus, Marvin contributed to the search for his successor, Ken Holum, Professor of History, and Past Chair of the Senate, 2008-2009. For the next year, Marvin will stay on to mentor Ken in his new role, while also consulting on the campus’s Plan of Organization Review Committee (PORC) process.

We owe Marvin our gratitude for all he has done to bolster shared governance at the University of Maryland.
Welcome
Parliamentarian
Kenneth Holm

Dr. Kenneth Holm has extensive experience with the University Senate, and served as Chair of the Senate during the 2008-2009 academic year. Additionally, he has been a member of multiple Senate, campus, and system-level committees and councils including: the Senate Committee on Committees, the Senate Nominations Committee, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF), and the University Athletic Council.

With his diverse knowledge and extensive experience with shared governance and the University Senate, Dr. Holm will undoubtedly give wise counsel in his new role as Parliamentarian.

2013-2014 Senate Meeting Schedule
Stamp Student Union

Wednesday, September 18, 2013
Thursday, October 10, 2013
Wednesday, November 13, 2013*
Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Wednesday, February 5, 2014
Thursday, March 6, 2014
Wednesday, April 2, 2014
Thursday, April 17, 2014
Wednesday, May 7, 2014

*State of the Campus Address

From the Senate Chair
Vincent Novara

Over the last six months I have spoken with many members of the campus community about the status of shared governance at this university. Much of the feedback I received was not encouraging. It is unlikely that we can reverse the course of these perceptions in one year – but I remain committed to determining ways to correct that course. The many important issues already heading to the Senate floor for discussion this academic year (Sexual Misconduct Policy, recommendations pertaining to Non-Tenure Track faculty, recommendations of the APT Task Force, and others) provide excellent opportunities for the campus community to engage in the shared governance process. I believe that participating in Senate meetings is merely one step. What are the other steps towards improving perceptions of shared governance at UMD? Please send your thoughts and suggestions to me at vnovara@umd.edu with any ideas you wish to share. And please remember: if you are reading this, you are likely I interested in shared governance. Maintaining that interest is the first step before all others on a corrected course.

-Senate Chair, Vincent Novara

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The Senate committees began the 2013-2014 academic year with 14 pending legislation items from last year. For instance, the Student Conduct Committee will continue its work on a Review of the Evidentiary Standards in the Code of Student Conduct. The ERG Committee will deliberate on legislation pertaining to An Assessment of Shared Governance at the University of Maryland, while the EDI Committee will return to work on its Alignment of Procurement Contracts with UM Non-Discrimination Values charge. There were over 40 items of legislation completed during the 2012-2013 year, and the Senate has already received a few proposals to be considered this year. To see a list of active and completed Senate legislation items, visit the Senate’s legislation page online.

From the Senate Chair-Elect

Donald Webster

One of my duties as Chair-Elect is to Chair our Committee on Committees. We met twice this summer and, thanks to the many applications from faculty, students, and staff, have formed the groups that will make recommendations on the many important issues that the Senate will address during the coming year. Shared governance can only succeed with the active participation of all parties. I'm proud to be part of a university community that has such enthusiastic engagement in this process.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

09/27/13 ERG Mtg
09/27/13 Campus Aff. Mtg
10/1/13 Staff Aff. Mtg
10/4/13 PCC Mtg
10/7/13 Gen. Ed. Mtg
10/10/13 Student Aff. Mtg
10/15/13 Campus Aff. Mtg
10/15/13 EDI Mtg
10/15/13 ERG Mtg

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

Current Senate Legislation:

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

Consideration of an Overall Title for Non-Tenure Track Faculty
   Senate Document 12-13-56

Providing a Unified Framework for Non-Tenure Track Faculty
   Senate Document 12-13-55

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

Review of Faculty Salary Inequities
   Senate Document 12-13-50

An Assessment of Shared Governance at the University of Maryland
   Senate Document 12-13-39

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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