

University Senate Meeting

April 2, 2025



Senators and Deans

- Use the designated credentials sent to you via email.
- Log in to **Top Hat** on your mobile device or web browser (<https://app.tophat.com/e/>).
- Locate the University Senate Course.
- Enter the **Course Password: spring2025**



Go to **Top Hat** on a mobile device or at <https://app.tophat.com/e/>

COURSE PASSWORD: spring2025

Quorum: 93

Senators & Deans: Press **A** in **Top Hat** to indicate that you are present for quorum purposes.

The meeting will start once we reach the Quorum number above.

A. Yes, present



Agenda

1. Call to Order

Agenda

2. Approval of the March 6, 2025 Senate Minutes (Action)

Agenda

3. Report of the Chair

Report of the Chair- Committee & Council Volunteer Period

- The online system to sign up to serve on one of our 10 Senate standing committees and councils for the upcoming academic year will go live next week.
- You do not need to be a Senator to be a member of one of these committees.



Report of the Chair- Committee & Council Volunteer Period

- Volunteers interested in contributing to the development of the university's policy making, expanding their campus network, and impacting real change in important policies are welcome to apply!
- The University Senate offers a wide range of committees covering varying topics that will appeal to anyone interested in getting involved.



Report of the Chair- Committee & Council Volunteer Period

- The deadline to volunteer is May 2nd.
- If you're interested in volunteering, or able to encourage others to volunteer, please go to the Senate website to submit a volunteer statement for the committees and councils you're interested in joining.



Report of the Chair- Committee & Council Volunteer Period

- Applicants should provide a brief description of their interest and what they can contribute.
- The Senate's Committee on Committees will select volunteers to serve on each committee and will notify selected volunteers over the summer.



Report of the Chair- Remaining Senate Meetings

- Following this meeting, the University Senate only has two more meetings left in the academic year on April 24th and May 7th.



Report of the Chair- Senate Meeting Schedule

- We hold two April meetings because the May 7, 2025, Senate Meeting is the transition meeting where all continuing Senators and newly-elected Senators will elect the next Chair-Elect of the Senate and vote on the elected committees and councils of the Senate such as:
 - The Senate Executive Committee
 - The Committee on Committees
 - Others that the Nominations Committee is developing slates for candidates



Report of the Chair- Remaining Senate Meetings

- That means our April 24th Senate meeting is our final meeting for any outgoing Senators with a term ending in 2025. It is also the final Senate meeting for Senate committees and University Councils to have their reports approved by the Senate.



Report of the Chair- Remaining Senate Meetings

- Senators should be prepared for a very busy meeting on April 24th.
- Please plan to review all of the materials before the meeting so you're ready to have an informed discussion on those items.



Agenda

4.

Special Order

Jennifer King Rice

Senior Vice President and Provost

Strategic Plan Update

Agenda

5. ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- The ERG Committee is submitting a series of recommendations as it relates to the selection of Committee chairs, but recommends no amendment to the University Senate Bylaws at this time.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- Background Information

- This item originally came from a Senate floor action.
- At the September 5, 2024 University Senate Meeting, Senator Hajiaghayi, TTK, CMNS inquired about amending the Bylaws to allow committees to nominate candidates for committee chair, with Senate Chair selecting final candidate.
- The Senate voted in favor of charging the Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee to review the University Senate Bylaws, to the purpose of reviewing committee chair selection.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- On September 5, 2024, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) provided a charge document to the ERG Committee that included:
 - Reviewing section 5.5i of the University Senate Bylaws and similar policies and procedures at Big 10 peer institutions
 - Consulting with stakeholders including the original proposer and Senate Leadership
 - Considering the impact on committee membership, procedure, and replacements



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- The ERG conducted Big10 research, and it was decided that the University of Maryland falls within the majority by maintaining an appointment process for committee leadership, but the committee took note of and discussed some other practices for committee chair selection.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- The committee also spent time consulting with senate constituencies, Senate Leadership, and the original proposer.
- All agreed that it was sensible for the decision to stay with the Senate Chair-Elect, and both Senate Leadership and original proposer agreed that having a list of interested candidates would be helpful both in facilitating the appointment process, and in adding transparency to the democratic process of shared governance on campus.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- The report contains details of the committee work, but the committee discussions finalized into a decision not to change the current Bylaw language, but include a series of recommendations to help facilitate the Committee Chair process.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

Recommendations

- During the process of soliciting nominations the committee recommends the Chair-Elect and Senate Leadership should consider, in the following order of priority:
 - Those with previous experience on the committee that individual would be presiding over.
 - Experience on the Senate (continuing or previously served Senators)



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

Recommendations

- Experience with the subject matter of that committee that they will be presiding over, for incoming Senators who have not had the aforementioned experience
- The inclusion of both self-nomination as well as peer-nominations (meaning Senator to Senator) to encourage the inclusion of diverse personalities



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

- The Elections, Representation, & Governance Committee recommended that the SEC approve the operational recommendations, with no Bylaw change, included in the Report of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Chair Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11).
- The SEC voted in favor of the ERG recommendations at the March 12, 2025 SEC Meeting.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the University Senate Bylaws, Committee Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document #24-25-11) (Information)

Recommendations

- The Senate Chair-Elect will thoroughly consider those individuals self-nominated before proposing external candidates
- The final selection of committee chair, or presiding officer, will ultimately lay with the Senate Chair-Elect



Discussion

**ERG Report: Proposal for Review of the
University Senate Bylaws, Committee
Presiding Officer Selection (Senate Document
#24-25-11) (Information)**



Agenda

6. Elections, Representation & Governance (ERG) Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- The ERG Committee is recommending a vote of no Senate Action to the SEC regarding the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15)- effectively closing the legislative log on this issue.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- On July 1, 2019, the Department of Transportation Services (DOTS), situated in the Division of Student Affairs, was relocated organizationally to the Division of Administration and Finance.
- Since the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs was the Chair of the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC), The Division of Administration and Finance decided to reevaluate who should now serve as Chair of the committee.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- The Director of Transportation and Administration & Finance have been working to reimagine the charge and membership for the committee to make it as effective as possible.
- As part of that effort, they requested, in 2019, that the Senate make recommendations related to its representation on CTAC within this new construct.
- This request came in the form of a memo, with plans to submit a formal proposal. But no formal proposal was submitted.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- At the October 10, 2024 University Senate Meeting, Senator Lyons, GRAD, JOUR inquired about the status of legislation (Senate Document 19-20-15) regarding the Senate representation on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).
- The Senate voted in favor of a review and re-evaluation of the relationship between CTAC and the Senate.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- On November 15, 2024, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) provided a charge document to the ERG Committee that included:
 - Reviewing the University Senate Bylaws Article 12 on the Annual Transition of the Senate.
 - Consulting with stakeholders, including CTAC and various staff, student, faculty constituencies.
 - Considering the representative and practical implications of any changes to the University Bylaws and CTAC election processes.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- During consideration the ERG Committee learned that CTAC administrators no longer feel the need to adjust membership, and in fact intended to rescind the original memo.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- During consultations, the ERG also determined it necessary to speak with the Senator who brought this issue forward to the Senate, and overall results from all consultations revealed campus constituencies do not feel the need to adjust membership, and the current transportation concerns are focused on communication and transparency between DOTs and the students/staff/etc.



ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15) (Information)

- This is not related to the membership or representation process of the current Campus Transportation Advisory Committee.
- On January 28, 2025, after due consideration, the ERG Committee voted in favor of “no Senate action” for the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate Document #19-20-15).
- The SEC voted to approve no Senate action at the March 12, 2025, SEC Meeting.



Discussion

**ERG Report: Proposal for Review of The
Campus Transportation Advisory Committee
(CTAC) Senate Representation (Senate
Document #19-20-15) (Information)**



Agenda

6. PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- The Graduate School submitted a proposal to the University Senate Office in November of 2024. After reviewing the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Policy Number: III-2.20(A)) the Graduate School saw it has not been amended since 2001 despite many changes to master's program structures across the campus.



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) charged the PCC with review of this proposal with charge elements to consult with:
 - The University of Maryland Graduate Council
 - The original proposer for rationale and background on the proposed changes
 - The Office of General Counsel



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- And charge elements to consider the proposed revisions to the policy as outlined in the submitted Proposal and, if appropriate, recommend whether the policy should be revised and if so, provide suggested revisions.



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- During consideration, the PCC Committee learned that the current policy provides for up to 9-credit overlaps for combined programs that are built upon a traditional 30-credit master's degree containing 3-credit courses.
- Modern master's programs are highly varied in structure, including overall credits and course-specific credits.



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- The considerable expansion of the number of combined bachelor/master's degree programs over the past 20 years has revealed other policy revisions that are needed regarding student and program eligibility, among other issues.



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- The current proposal provides a suite of revisions to the policy to bring it up to date and provide better guidance for programs on developing combined bachelor's/master's programs.
- The PCC Committee consulted with representatives of the Graduate School as well as the Office of General Counsel with support for the current proposed language.



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- The proposal was approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee at its meeting on February 7, 2025.
- The Program, Curricula, and Courses Committee recommends that the proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) be approved.



Discussion

**PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and
Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's
Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20)
(Action)**



PCC Report: Proposal to Revise the Policy and Guidelines for Combined Bachelor's/Master's Programs (Senate Document #24-25-20) (Action)

- A. In Favor
- B. Opposed
- C. Abstain



Agenda

8. New Business
9. Adjournment

**Thank you for
attending!**

