



CALL TO ORDER

Senate Chair Laura Dugan called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m.

Dugan noted that the meeting agenda includes a Special Order presentation. She stated that the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) set the agenda with the Special Order presentation at the end of the meeting in order to ensure that the action items on the agenda could be completed while allotting the remainder of the time for the presentation. Dugan asked if there were any objections to the order of the agenda. Hearing none, she proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2020 SENATE MINUTES (ACTION)

The minutes were approved as distributed.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Meeting Logistics: Chair Dugan stated that the Senate meeting was being held using the Zoom webinar format and that Senators were able to join as panelists, allowing them to fully participate in the meeting, while members of the campus community joined as attendees.

Dugan reviewed logistics that should be used during the meeting for Senators including using the “Raise Hand” to be recognized to speak and Chat box instead of the “Coffee Mug” feature to raise Points of Order that need to be addressed immediately. Dugan noted that questions, comments, or inquiries related to technical difficulties should not be posted in the Chat box because she would only be addressing Points of Order.

Dugan also stated that any attendee who wishes to speak on the Senate floor must be introduced by a Senator. She noted that both the Senator and attendee should use the “Raise Hand” feature, and she will recognize the Senator, who can then introduce the attendee that they wish to be recognized to speak. Dugan reminded Senators to look for a “request to unmute” and unmute themselves when recognized to speak.

Voting: Dugan stated that Senators must use TurningPoint to vote during Action items on the agenda. She provided instructions for logging into TurningPoint and entering the Session ID for the meeting. Dugan stated that the Session ID will change for each Senate meeting so only Senators in attendance at the meeting can vote. She noted that the Session ID will be listed on the Quorum slide at the start of the meeting and at the top of all meeting slides for any Senators who arrive late.

Elections: Dugan stated that the candidacy period for the staff, student, and single-member constituency elections ended on February 5, 2021 and noted that the election period will begin on February 22, 2021. She encouraged Senators and attendees to vote for their Senators at that time. Dugan stated that February 5th was also the deadline for the Deans to report the results of their faculty elections. She thanked the departments and Colleges who were able to meet the deadline. Dugan stated that the new faculty Senators will be eligible for nomination for elected committees, councils, and leadership positions for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Nominations for Elected Committees & Councils: Dugan stated that the Nominations Committee will be starting its work this week. The Committee is tasked with identifying potential nominees for the Senate's elected committees and councils, including the Senate Executive Committee, the Committee on Committees, the Athletic Council, and the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). Dugan stated that Senators will receive an email in the coming days soliciting self-nominations and nominations of their colleagues. She stated that it is important to continue to have strong nominees running in all of these elections, and encouraged Senators to consider running or nominating colleagues for these important positions.

AMENDMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GRADING SYMBOLS AND NOTATIONS USED ON ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS POLICY (SENATE DOCUMENT #20-21-32) (INFORMATION)

Dugan stated that in December 2020, Provost Rankin met with the Senate leadership to discuss feedback from the University community about the extended pressures and difficulties caused by the pandemic and potential options associated with the pass/fail grading option. She noted that in January 2021, the Senate leadership and Provost Rankin asked the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) to consider whether changes to University policy or practice were needed to better serve the University community, both in times of emergency and in normal circumstances.

Dugan stated that the SEC consulted with Provost Rankin and representatives of the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the Registrar's Office, Enrollment Management, and the Division of Information Technology; engaged members of the campus community; and reviewed Big 10 and peer institution data on changing the Pass minimum grade equivalent from a D- to a C- in the University of Maryland Grading Symbols and Notations Used on Academic Transcripts Policy.

Dugan stated that following discussion on the merits of the change and in recognition of the need to make any changes prior to the start of the spring 2021 semester, the SEC voted unanimously to exercise its authority under 4.3.a. of the *Bylaws of the University Senate*, to act on behalf of the Senate to amend the University of Maryland Grading Symbols and Notations Used on Academic Transcripts Policy to change the Pass minimum grade equivalent from a D- to a C- at its meeting on January 21, 2021. She stated that the amendment to the policy was subsequently approved by President Pines on January 22, 2021 on an interim basis pending Senate review.

Dugan stated that the SEC also voted to charge the Academic, Planning & Standards (APAS) Committee with a comprehensive review of the revision to the policy, which will be reviewed by the Senate before the policy can be formally codified.

EMERGENCY PASS/FAIL GUIDELINES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND (SENATE DOCUMENT #20-21-33) (INFORMATION)

Dugan stated that the Senate Executive Committee's deliberations in January 2021 also included consideration of new guidelines on how the pass/fail grading system could be used during emergency conditions in order to go further in providing support to students. Provost Rankin presented major principles, constraints, decision points, and recommendations from the deans related to potential emergency pass/fail guidelines. She noted that the SEC discussed the recommended Emergency Pass/Fail Guidelines as well as the constraints with Provost Rankin and other key administrators to better understand the complexity of the issue and the need to have any revisions to policy or guidelines in place prior to the start of the Spring 2021 semester.

Dugan stated that at its January 21, 2021 meeting, the SEC discussed feedback received from its constituents and a revised draft of the Emergency Pass/fail guidelines. She noted that SEC members agreed that changing the Pass minimum grade equivalent to a C- would more appropriately reflect a student's academic progress and that new guidelines on how the pass/fail grading system could be used during emergency conditions would go further in providing support to students. Dugan stated that the SEC emphasized that these guidelines should only be invoked at the discretion of the President and the Senior Vice President & Provost during emergency situations and that at all other times, the standard grading procedure should be followed. She noted that following extensive discussion on the importance of the guidelines and in recognition of the need to invoke the guidelines for the spring 2021 semester because of the ongoing impact of the pandemic, the SEC voted unanimously to exercise its authority under 4.3.a. of the *Bylaws of the University Senate* to act on behalf of the Senate to approve the Emergency Pass/Fail Guidelines for the University of Maryland as follows:

- Students will be able to opt in to courses that they wish to take as pass/fail.
- Students will receive automatic approval when they choose the pass/fail option for up to 7 credits per semester.
- Students experiencing exceptional circumstances may request an exception to the 7-credit limit through their advisor and with the approval of their Dean.
- The deadline for both choosing the pass/fail grading option and dropping a course with a W will be extended until 10:59 PM EST on the last day of classes.
- Faculty will be encouraged to keep in-course grades current, so students have a good idea of the grade they have earned in the course by the last day of classes.
- Faculty will not be aware of which students in their course are taking it pass/fail.

Dugan stated that the Emergency Pass/Fail Guidelines were subsequently approved by President Pines on January 22, 2021 on an interim basis pending Senate review. She noted that the SEC also voted to charge the Academic, Planning & Standards (APAS) Committee with a comprehensive review of the Emergency Pass/Fail Guidelines, which would allow for campus community input through the formal Senate process before it is formally codified.

DEACTIVATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK POLICY CONCERNING TELECOMMUNICATIONS EVALUATIONS (SENATE DOCUMENT #20-21-27) (INFORMATION)

Dugan shared that the Senate leadership, in collaboration with the President's Office and the Office of General Counsel, developed a formal process for deactivating University policies and procedures because the principles upon which they were developed, or the circumstances to which they applied have changed significantly or no longer exist.

Dugan stated that the process is similar to the one developed for technical amendments with two important distinctions: the deactivation of policies can only be initiated by the administrative unit responsible for implementation; and the policy will not be formally removed until the Senate is notified and the President has approved the deactivation.

Dugan stated that the request to deactivate the University of Maryland, College Park Policy Concerning Telecommunications Evaluations is only the second such request. Dugan stated that the University Information Technology (IT) Council, in collaboration with the Division of Information

Technology (DIT) recommends the removal of the policy because it is no longer relevant, as Telecommunications Services is now integrated with DIT Network Services.

Dugan stated that the report was an information for the Senate, but will also be sent to the President for approval of the deactivation and removal from the University's policy page, which will allow the Senate to keep a record of the deactivation.

PCC PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES (SENATE DOCUMENT #20-21-28) (ACTION)

Valérie Orlando, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the proposal and provided background information.

Dugan thanked Orlando and opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, she called for a vote. The result was 141 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions. **The proposal passed.**

PCC PROPOSAL TO RENAME THE PH.D. IN "SURVEY METHODOLOGY" TO "SURVEY AND DATA SCIENCE" (SENATE DOCUMENT #20-21-29) (ACTION)

Valérie Orlando, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the proposal and provided background information.

Dugan thanked Orlando and opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Senator Lalwani, faculty, College of Arts and Humanities, expressed support for the proposal because data science is very big in the STEM fields, and this name change would help the University continue to recruit strong international and national students interested in data science. She noted that other Universities have already done this name change.

Senator Moradi, faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, asked if there was any conflict with the Graduate Certificate in Data Science in the department of Statistics in collaboration with the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences (CMNS).

Betsy Beise, Member of the PCC Committee and Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, stated that the Graduate Certificate in Data Science in CMNS is a much more technical degree program than the program in Survey Methodology. She noted that the program in Survey Methodology is focused on the application of data science to social science. Beise also stated that the proposal matches the change in name of the master's program in Survey and Data Science, which was approved by the Senate last year.

Senator Lanford, faculty, Division of Research, introduced Jen Wachtel, graduate student in the College of Information Studies and the Department of History, and staff, University Libraries. Wachtel asked if the program name Data Science conflicts with the data science program offered in the College of Information Studies.

Beise stated that she is unaware of a masters or Ph.D. program in Data Science in the College of Information Studies.

Hearing no further discussion, Dugan called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 128 in favor, 8 opposed, and 8 abstentions. **The proposal passed.**

SPECIAL ORDER

Darryll J. Pines
President, University of Maryland
Patty Perillo
Vice President for Student Affairs
Issues Related to COVID-19

Chair Dugan welcomed Darryll J. Pines, President of the University of Maryland, and Patty Perillo, Vice President for Student Affairs, and invited them to provide their presentation.

President Pines thanked the Senate leadership and Senators for their participation in shared governance.

President Pines acknowledged members of his administration including those serving in an interim capacity:

- Ann G. Wylie, interim Senior Vice President and Provost;
- Brian Burnett, interim Chief Financial Officer;
- Brodie Remington, interim Vice President for University Relations; and
- Brian Ullmann, Acting Chief of Marketing and Communications for the Cabinet.

He also acknowledged Neil Tickner, who has been his and President Loh's speechwriter and thanked him for his service because he plans to retire.

President Pines provided an update on the search for the new Provost.

- The search for the new Provost was announced last week.
- Jeff Hollingsworth, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, will serve as the Chair of the search committee.
- The search is internal to the University System of Maryland (USM).
- A new Provost will hopefully be in place by July 1, 2021.

President Pines shared an update to the University's current research rankings and the status of research enterprises at the University.

National Science Foundation Higher Education and Development (HERD)

- The strategic partnership between the University and the University of Maryland, Baltimore initiated in 2012 under a single Vice President for Research has enabled the two institutions to share resources and combine research funding numbers as of fiscal year 2019.
- The \$1.1 billion dollars of research between the two institutions ranks the University 14th overall and 8th among public universities in the HERD ranking.
- This ranking places the University in a world-class stature.
- The State of Maryland is one of only five states to have one public University and one private University each with over \$1 billion in research enterprises.

Sponsored Research Awards

- Sponsored Research Awards for the Office of Research Administration (ORA) and non-ORA Research Awards are increasing.
 - This is a positive sign for fiscal year 2021.
 - The University will be more competitive in research impact.

Online Rankings

- The Robert H. Smith School of Business Master of Business Administration program remains ranked 10th overall in the nation in the U.S. News and World Report Ranking as it was in 2020.
- The A. James Clark School of Engineering moved up 3 slots to rank 15th overall.

President Pines shared awards received by alumni and welcomed some of University's recent hires:

- N.K. Jemison, who received a Master's in Education in 1997, received a 2020 MacArthur Fellowship;
- Marin Alsop, recipient of a 2005 MacArthur Fellowship, was hired as the Director of the National Orchestral Institute;
- Christopher Jones, who received a PhD in Aerospace Engineering in 1997; and Rajiv Loaroya, who received a master's and Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering, in 1989 and 1992, were elected to the National Academy of Engineering; and
- Prabhudev Konana was hired as Dean of the Robert H. Smith School of Business.

President Pines shared Fall 2021 admissions data:

- The University has received nearly 50,000 applications.
 - This is the largest number of applicants in University history.
 - In-state applications have risen by 2,000.
 - Out-of-state applications have risen by almost 16,000.
- The rise in applications is largely attributed to access to students through the Common Application.
 - The University is also test optional this year.
- More applications were received from students of color than at any time in University history.
- The University is targeting the same level of enrollment and a balance of in-state and out-of-state students.
 - The average GPA of admitted students is 4.38.
 - The admission rate is 37.1%.

President Pines shared information about the strategic planning process for the next decade.

- The University will work with McKinsey & Company as the facilitator.
- McKinsey & Company will meet with the President's Cabinet and colleagues from the Senate and Deans to:
 - Start building the SWOT analysis;
 - Define the University's mission and values;
 - Set 10 year aspirational goals;
 - Establish strategic pillars with measurable quantifiable targets; and
 - Develop a portfolio of strategic initiatives.
- The process will consist of three phases:
 - Focusing on strategic pillars;
 - Building a portfolio of initiatives; and
 - Establishing an implementation plan.

- The strategic plan process should be introduced in September 2021.

Dugan opened the floor to questions for President Pines.

Senators asked questions about the status of the hiring freeze at the University, and the University's plan to get feedback from campus constituencies on the strategic plan since the campus is operating virtually.

President Pines stated that the University is able to make some targeted hires. He shared that he is hopeful that there will not be any budget cuts for fiscal year 2022, which would allow the University to develop implementation plans and budget for the strategic plan. President Pines stated that the Voices of Maryland portal will be reactivated for the campus community to provide ideas and feedback about the strengths and values of the University. He shared that multiple channels will be available for the community to provide their input.

Senators expressed concern about McKinsey & Company leading the University's strategic plan effort in a direction that maximizes profit. Senators noted that almost half of the University's faculty are PTK and asked if there is a plan to seek feedback from PTK faculty on the strategic plan. Senators expressed concern that McKinsey & Company would place emphasis on fundraising and perhaps marginalize certain departments.

President Pines stated that McKinsey is being asked to engage the community as a facilitator, and has no input into the strategic plan. He stated that all input from the campus community regarding the strategic plan is welcome. President Pines noted that the Senate would be asked for nominations for a variety of committees representative of the campus community. He reminded Senators that the University modified its approach to research faculty after Ellen Williams, Chair-Elect, made a case to make sure that researchers were not harmed in the budget cuts. President Pines stated that he will take Senators' concerns about McKinsey & Company under serious advisement. He noted that the Fall 2021 semester is likely to be held significantly in person, and encouraged the campus community to consider what they might need to return to campus. President Pines encouraged Senators to focus on the future of the campus, the future of the University's impact on the world, and on conducting scholarship that will raise the excellence of the institution.

Dugan thanked President Pines. She invited Vice President Perillo to provide her presentation.

Vice President Perillo provided an update on the COVID-19 response at the University.

Real-Time Response to COVID-19

- President Pines, Provost Wylie, and the Vice Presidents meet daily to receive updates about real-time COVID-19 indicators;
- The Division of Student Affairs Response Team meets daily to manage daily responses;
- The Data Management & Analytics Team meets daily to identify trends and patterns so the campus can respond very quickly; and
- The Return to Campus Working Group meets weekly to review operational issues across the campus.

University Resources Developed to Manage and Mitigate COVID-19

- Regular PCR testing;
- A HEAL telephone line staffed by the Health Center to respond to questions about COVID-19;

- An early contact identification process for anyone who tests positive;
- Quarantine and isolation housing;
- Communicating with contacts of an individual who tests positive;
- The Family Communication Response Team; and
- A Compliance Team which refers students to the Office of Student Conduct if they do not comply with University regulations.

Testing Expectations for Spring 2021

- The University will return to teaching fully online after Spring Break.
- Students must get tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to campus.
- Students must monitor compliance on return.umd.edu.

Vaccine Administration

- After significant advocacy, including by members of the campus community, the State of Maryland shifted Higher Education to Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.
 - The State is now in Phase 1C of the vaccination plan.
- The University hopes to partner with a hospital or medical center to become an open point of vaccine distribution.
- The University is also developing its own plan for vaccine administration.
- Campus community members will still have to follow the 4Maryland Guidelines after they are vaccinated.

Vice President Perillo shared that the new University Health Center Director, Spiro Marinopolous was unable to attend the Senate meeting due to receiving the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. She stated that he plans to attend a future Senate meeting.

Dugan thanked President Pines and Vice President Perillo and opened the floor to questions.

A Senator asked when data on the COVID-19 vaccine will be available and when it will make a difference in campus procedures.

Vice President Perillo shared that the University and the Division of Information Technology (DIT) are developing a system to make vaccine data available.

President Pines shared that the University is working on collecting data from the campus community regarding which members have had the vaccine. He shared that the University's goal is to have the majority of the campus population including students vaccinated in summer 2021 to return to in-person operations in fall 2021. President Pines stated that there will be an announcement once DIT has decided how data will be collected.

Senator Sehgal, faculty, School of Public Health, stated that 70% vaccinated is the understood threshold for herd immunity. He noted that students will fall into the lower priority groups for receiving the vaccine and will likely be vaccinated over the summer.

A Senator asked if faculty who are teaching in person will receive any type of priority for the vaccine.

Vice President Perillo stated that a vaccination task force has developed a priority list for the campus. She notes that faculty teaching in person will have some priority in that lineup.

President Pines emphasized that campus community members should still continue following the Maryland guidelines after they have been vaccinated.

Senators suggested partnering with the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) to become a point of distribution for the vaccine, and asked about the University's plans to protect campus community members who are unable to be vaccinated.

Vice President Perillo stated that the University is in active conversation to partner with UMMC. She stated that President Pines has added the matter of interventions other than the vaccine to the campus leadership agenda. Vice President Perillo shared that campus leadership is currently focusing on managing in-person classes, and the campus community will likely hear more about additional interventions in a week or two.

President Pines shared that campus leadership reviewed technological solutions for mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 virus, such as ultraviolet radiation, at a meeting earlier that morning. He stated that these solutions still require some further analysis prior to making an operational decision. President Pines stated that new masks should hopefully be provided in the fall.

Vice President Perillo clarified that the University is considered to be in Phase 1B of the Maryland State vaccination program. She stated that the vaccine will be distributed when it arrives on campus in a way that makes sense from a public health perspective.

A Senator asked what the University is doing to enforce masks and social distancing requirements by contractors who are on campus.

Vice President Perillo stated that the University is doing everything they can to educate affiliates on University regulations. She stated that campus community members can call a hotline to report those who are in violation and the University will respond.

A Senator expressed concern about standing in line for COVID-19 testing, and requested an exception to bi-weekly testing for faculty members over the age of 65 who have stayed isolated and have received both doses of the vaccine.

Vice President Perillo clarified that there is no expectation of testing for campus community members who are not coming to campus. She shared that the testing plan for the fall 2021 semester has not been developed.

A Senator asked which percentage of campus community members need to be vaccinated before in-person education will begin, and inquired when the campus may get the vaccine.

President Pines stated that the University has been working with UMMC and other hospital systems to create a point of distribution. He stated that the University is waiting for the state to provide sufficient doses of the vaccine.

Vice President Perillo shared that the University will develop a process to know who has been vaccinated, and will be able to develop fall 2021 plans after getting a better sense of the vaccination numbers.

Senators asked if Phase 1B of the vaccination plan includes graduate assistants, and if a policy will be put in place for campus community members who refuse to be vaccinated.

Vice President Perillo stated that graduate assistants will be prioritized the same way as faculty and staff, with priority going to campus community members who have significant ongoing interaction with the public. She stated that the Office of General Counsel at the University and the University System of Maryland (USM) have advised that the University cannot mandate resident students to be vaccinated, as the vaccine has been released as emergency use.

President Pines stated that he expects that the state's Office of the Attorney General will provide guidance similar to the information provided regarding COVID-19 testing.

A Senator requested more information about how to become more involved with diversity and inclusion efforts on campus.

President Pines stated that he will connect the Senator with Georgina Dodge, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion. He thanked the Senator for his commitment to supporting inclusivity.

Senate Chair Dugan thanked President Pines and Vice President Perillo for their presentation and stated that because it was 5:00 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.