



## **CALL TO ORDER**

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Senate Chair Walsh called the meeting to order at 3:18 p.m.

Chair Walsh noted that Senators would use clickers for voting for the special elections and on regular business items. He provided a brief overview of how to operate the clickers and of the approval voting process. Chair Walsh and the Senate welcomed new Senators.

## **ELECTION OF THE CHAIR-ELECT**

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Laura Dugan, Professor, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences and Daniel Lathrop, Professor, College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences were identified as the candidates for Chair-Elect. Laura Dugan was elected Chair-Elect.

## **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 24, 2019 SENATE MINUTES (ACTION)**

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The Senate approved the minutes as distributed.

## **REPORT OF THE OUTGOING CHAIR, CHRIS WALSH**

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Chair Walsh provided an overview of the Senate's work over the course of the past year.

- The Senate held two special meetings in the fall semester to allow the campus community to voice their frustration and pain in response to the death of Jordan McNair. The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) was charged with reviewing and making recommendations based on the findings of the investigations into McNair's death and the alleged toxic culture of the football program.
- The Senate passed a resolution condemning the Board's overreach before focusing on structuring an orderly presidential transition.
- The creation of the Special Committee on University Finance (SCUF) in order to enhance the Senate's role in shared governance in the long-term planning and financing of the University.
- The Senate also approved 17 items from the Programs, Curricula, & Courses (PCC) Committee; six policy revisions; and four College Plans of Organization.

Chair Walsh thanked the Senate Staff for their efforts and support throughout the year and introduced the incoming Chair, Pamela Lanford.

Lanford commented on the challenges faced by the Senate during the 2018-2019 academic year and thanked Walsh for his positive attitude, outstanding service, and leadership. She presented him with a plaque of appreciation.

Lanford noted that the 2019-2020 Senate meeting schedule was now available on the Senate website. She announced that Chancellor Caret has invited Senate Executive Committee members and Senate committee chairs to a shared governance forum with members of the presidential

search committee on May 8, 2019, in addition to the public forum also scheduled for on that date. She also explained protocol for speaking at Senate meetings.

## **SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

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Chair Lanford thanked Marc Pound, Chair of the Nominations Committee and the members of the committee for their work in developing the slates and the candidates who had agreed to run. Chair Lanford provided voting instructions, which utilized approval voting by constituency.

The Senate voted for faculty, staff, and student representatives for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), the Committee on Committees, the University Athletic Council, the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF), and the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

Chair Lanford stated that Reka Montfort would announce the results of the special elections by email following the meeting.

## **SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY**

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### **Damon Evans, Director of Athletics, University of Maryland** *The State of the Athletic Department*

Chair Lanford invited Damon Evans, Director of Athletics, University of Maryland to provide his presentation.

Evans congratulated Lanford and Dugan on their respective elections as Chair and Chair-Elect and emphasized the Athletic Department's desire to work closely with the Senate. He thanked Senator Nelligan for representing Athletics and Senator McKennie for his leadership as a student athlete.

Evans shared the vision of the Athletic Department: to uphold and enhance the academic mission of the University; to be recognized as a premier program within the dynamic landscape of intercollegiate athletics and provide a student-centered environment dedicated to inclusivity, innovation, engagement, and transparency; and to exceed its own expectations as an elite athletic program by inspiring pride in the character and achievement of the University and its student athletes and athletic programs.

Evans noted that students are at the forefront of the Athletic Department, and that everything it does should focus on students. He noted that athletics should be fully integrated within the University's academic enterprise and should reinforce the University's academic mission. Evans stated that the most important aspect of the program is to educate and develop student athletes and provide them with a pathway to earn an education through sports.

Evans provided statistics about the student athletes over the last five years including that 480 student athletes have graduated from 50 different majors; over half of the student athletes at the University have a 3.0 or higher GPA; and over 100 have pursued master's degrees.

Evans reflected on the University's transition to the Big Ten Conference and the opportunities afforded to the University by its membership in the Big Ten Academic Alliance including peer-to-

peer collaboration, increased financial opportunities, and opportunities for continual growth for the institution and its athletic programs.

Evans commented on current challenges in the world of intercollegiate athletics, including student athlete rights including consideration of legislation on sports wagering and tax reform and the debate regarding pay-for-play for student athletes. He stated that the University should not lose sight of the fact that its main goal is to provide an education for student athletes.

Evans commented on the recommendations resulting from the Walters report and noted that 19 of the 20 recommendations included in the report have been completed at this time. The remaining recommendation on the type of healthcare the University will provide for its student athletes, will be announced soon. The majority of the recommendations that resulted from the investigation into the alleged toxic culture of the football program have also been implemented. The University's plans to move forward with a mechanism for student athletes to provide confidential feedback about their experiences within their athletic programs. Evans thanked the SEC for its guidance and recommendations from its review of the investigative reports.

Evans reflected on the importance of scholarships for student athletes and the importance of developing them academically, athletically, entrepreneurially, and socially. He noted that the University is facing a new chapter that will be defined by change, and by how the institution is able to adapt and solve problems as they come. He promised that the Athletic Department will do everything in its power to help the University move forward by aligning the objectives of the department with those of the University and operating as One Maryland.

Evans thanked the Senate for the opportunity to provide an update, and encouraged faculty and staff to attend the first home football game of the 2019-2020 season.

Chair Lanford opened the floor to questions.

Senators raised concerns about the student athletic fees, the use of homophobic slurs in the football program, and inquired about the model for paying student athletes, legislation that would provide student athletes with the right to collective bargaining, scholarship fund has been established to honor Jordan McNair, and how the Athletic Department solicits opinions from student athletes.

Evans responded that student athletic fees are open to discussions but added that they have not been raised in several years. He noted that Athletics was working on LGBTQ+ initiatives and issues to promote inclusivity but was open to collaboration with the Office of Diversity & Inclusion. Evans noted that there are better avenues to pursue in order to provide resources for student athletes than actually paying them for their performance and participation in intercollegiate athletics. He said that the University must ensure that student athlete voices are heard, and that it must work to make decisions that are in the best interest of everyone involved. Evans also stated that there is a scholarship fund in McNair's name, and that donations can be made through the College Park Foundation. Evans responded that the University has several processes in place to gather feedback from student athletes including an annual, anonymous, confidential survey that covers every aspect of their athletic programs from coaching and training to academics, meetings with sports advisors where feedback can be shared, and an online platform so that student athletes may provide feedback as needed throughout the year.

Chair Lanford thanked Director Evans for his presentation. She commented that the Senate supports all students in all endeavors and extends a special concern to student athletes this year.

She expressed appreciation for student athletes and for Director Evans's presence and participation at the Senate meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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There was no new business.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.