



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™

Semester Update

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE OFFICE

Spring 2019

University Senate governance is regularly engaged in discussions on many of the key issues facing the University. Read on to find out what the senates and their committees have worked on this semester.



Recognizing Outstanding Service to University Senate Governance

Each year, the Outstanding Service to University Senate Governance Recognition is awarded to faculty, P&A, and civil service employees who have made a significant impact on University Senate governance. This year's recipients are Mia Boos (P&A), Emily Hoover (faculty), and Raymond Muno (civil service). [Read more about the recipients.](#)

University Senate Governance Working for U

Each senate has an executive— or "consultative"—committee. Members of the consultative committees are elected to represent the respective bodies.

Faculty Consultative Committee

Spring semester has been exceptionally busy for the Faculty Consultative Committee (FCC), which has been dealing with a wide range of issues and topics. An item of business at the forefront of the committee's agenda over the past few months has been, and continues to be, the aftermath of the report of the [Task Force on Building Names and Institutional History](#). In response to the Board of Regents' discussion of the report at its March 8 meeting, the FCC drafted a letter calling for a special session to be held in a neutral environment. [Read more.](#)

Student Senate Consultative Committee

The Student Senate Consultative Committee (SSCC) and Student Senate addressed a variety of issues this semester and met with a variety of personnel University-wide. Topics included a discussion with the co-chair of the President's Initiative to Prevent Sexual Misconduct (PIPSM), Professor Karen Miksch, on the progress and impact the initiative has had on the Twin Cities campus. Additionally, at its March meeting, the Student Senate heard from Kelly Wallin, SSCC member and one of the two student members on the [Task Force on Building Names and Institutional History](#). [Read more.](#)

Civil Service Senate Consultative Committee

Under the leadership of Chair Becky Nelson and Chair-Elect Jean Otto, the Civil Service Consultative Committee (CSCC) worked on several important initiatives this semester, including updating the Civil Service Employment Rules to align with the new *Parental Leave for Employees* policy, and conducting a review of the [Civil Service Senate Constitution, Bylaws and Rules](#). Terry Beseman has been named chair-elect for the 2019-20 academic year. The committee looks forward to another productive year. [Read more.](#)

P&A Senate Consultative Committee

The P&A Consultative Committee (PACC) had a busy and productive semester. Chair Ian Ringgenberg spoke with President-Designate Joan Gabel a number of times and said he is looking forward to her fresh perspective and leadership. In addition, PACC leadership is working to foster a closer relationship with the Office of the President through regular meetings with Brianna Keeney, deputy chief of staff for policy and initiatives. At its April meeting, the P&A Senate elected Erin Heath to serve as chair-elect for the 2019-20 academic year. Each of PACC's subcommittees have been hard at work, as well. [Read more.](#)



A View from the Inside

Advocating to Meet Basic Student Needs

Catalina Anampa Castro

Chair, Student Senate and Student Senate Consultative Committee

Rising costs of college, the stress of an academic course load, and the inability to be sure of how to fund your food can lead to a number of consequences. Research shows that college food insecurity is linked to fair or poor mental and physical health, lower grade point averages, and higher dropout rates. What can the University do to respond to these needs? [Read more](#) to find out efforts underway at the University and statewide to combat food insecurity among college students.

The Big Issues

The work of the University and Faculty Senates is accomplished primarily through their 22 standing [committees](#), as well as numerous subcommittees and task forces. Faculty, academic professionals, civil service staff, students, alumni, and administrators have designated positions on most committees.

Coach/Faculty Conversation

On April 22, 2019, the Faculty Academic Oversight for Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (FAOIAAC) and the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (IAC) hosted their spring semester Coach/Faculty Conversation Series. The main purpose of this conversation series is to build bridges and more fully integrate academics and athletics. The conversation on the 22nd focused on FAOIAAC's policy on contact between coaches and faculty. [Read more.](#)

Disabilities Issues Resolution

In the wake of the mandatory training on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Misconduct, which was considered a great success, the Disabilities Issues Committee approved a resolution calling for the administration to create and require instructors and student affairs staff to complete similar professional development on supporting students with disabilities. [Read more.](#)

Voter Registration Resolution

Earlier this spring, students organized a grassroots effort to increase voter registration among new undergraduate students attending the University. The Minnesota Student Association (MSA) brought forward a resolution seeking to institutionalize the process of registering new students who are eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota. [Read more.](#)

Gender Identity Policy

Following an incendiary article on the proposed administrative policy *Equity and Access: Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Names, and Pronouns* in the *Star Tribune* over the summer, further consultation was initiated this year on a much shorter policy that was framed more positively. Leadership from the Faculty, Student, Civil Service, and P&A Senates met to provide feedback on the new revisions. [Read more.](#)

University/Faculty Senate Recaps

March 14, 2019 Meeting

The University and Faculty Senate meeting on March 14, 2019, was brief, consisting of routine business, including approval of the 2022-23 academic calendar for the Twin Cities and Rochester campuses, as well as Vice President for Equity and Diversity Michael Goh's official introduction to the senate. Immediately following the meeting was President Eric Kaler's final State of the University address. *Star Tribune* reporter Lori Sturdevant moderated the question and answer portion.

April 4, 2019 Meeting

The April meeting of the University and Faculty Senates focused on the proposed administrative policy, *Equity and Access: Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Names, and Pronouns*. [Read more.](#)

May 2, 2019 Meeting

The May meeting saw the culmination of a variety of initiatives from the year, including a vote on the proposed administrative policy *Equity and Access: Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Names, and Pronouns*. Senators approved the policy. Also on the docket were the resolutions from the Disabilities Issues Committee and the Equity, Access, and Diversity Committee, described in "The Big Issues" above. [Read more.](#)



Adjourned

Professor Amy Pittenger
Chair, Faculty and Senate Consultative Committees

The 2018-19 academic year has been an interesting and challenging time. We have experienced significant leadership transition, starting the year by selecting the 17th president of the University of Minnesota and ending the year by beginning the search for our next executive vice president and provost, and several other leadership positions just named or in the search process. These changes have generated renewed energy across our system. [Read more.](#)

Looking Ahead

2019-20 University/Faculty Senate Meetings

The University Senate and Faculty Senate meetings for 2019-20 will take place on the following dates, starting at 2:30 p.m.:

- November 7, 2019
- December 5, 2019
- February 27, 2020
- April 2, 2020
- April 23, 2020

The [full calendar](#) is available on the University Senate website. All members of the University community are invited to attend.

End Matter

Get Involved!

[Learn more](#) about serving on a committee or representing your unit on one of the senates.

The Weekly Update

Want to keep up to date on what the committees and senate are doing? [Sign up](#) for the Weekly Update to receive approved minutes.

University Senate Resources

Curious about the structure of University Senate governance, the path of a resolution and what happens once a resolution is passed, or what current issues are under consideration in the committees? All this and more is available on the University Senate [Resources](#) page!



Facebook



Twitter

This email was sent to all faculty, Civil Service and P&A Staff by University Senate, 427 Morrill Hall, 100 Church St SE, Minneapolis, MN, 55455, USA. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [mass email privacy statement](#)