



USMSC Report to Board of Regents

April 19, 2019

The most recent meeting of the USMSC was March 10, 2019. We were pleased to have Board of Regents Chair, Linda Gooden, join us at this meeting for the first hour. Ms. Gooden delivered a high-level description of the operation and purpose of the Board of Regents and also asked important questions regarding transparency, freedom of speech, and the role of students in the system.

On behalf of the USMSC, I would like to thank Ms. Gooden for sharing her time, thoughts, and insight with us. I hope that these sorts of discussions can continue to help our members develop as thoughtful and contributing student leaders while also continue to affirm that students have a voice and role in the future of the University System of Maryland.

During the business portion of the meeting, common concerns surrounding student consultation with fee changes, mental health resources for students, and appropriate representation of students on university committees were repeated. Much time was also dedicated to discussions regarding the Board of Regents expansion bill as well as the bill concerning the right for graduate assistants to collectively bargain.

Representatives from UMCP incited a successful motion to create a committee on student fees. This committee will focus on student involvement in the fee-setting process and an understanding of the options available to USM institutions when considering fees, new or old.

The nature of concerns do not always enjoy shared importance between undergraduate and graduate representatives at our meetings. Therefore, our meetings have long featured 'break-out sessions' where the two groups convene separately to discuss matters with their appropriate USMSC Vice President and each other. This year, these sessions have been pivotal to the leadership's understanding of both systemic and institution-specific issues.

In light of this, the USMSC graduate students have elected to meet separately outside of regularly scheduled USMSC meetings to discuss issues and ideas more fully. Additionally, our Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs has been meeting with student government groups across the system. The USMSC leadership will continue to note and record the content of these meetings, reporting on action and information items as appropriate.

By the time of this meeting, the USMSC should have completed its report on the State of Shared Governance. This report will be delivered to the Chancellor.

If the Board has any input for items to be brought to the Student Council, please communicate with me so that I can ensure they are given time on our agenda and addressed in my next report to this board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roy Prouty', is positioned above the printed name.

Roy Prouty
2018-2019 USMSC President

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