

From: Dave Secor, Senate Chair

To: President Boesch

SUBJECT: Senate Update for Academic Council Meeting, 7 March 2017

6 March, 2017

1. Convocation planning

Senators Cat Stylinks and Elizabeth North have designed a Convocation centered on Science Communication and Engagement. Supported by Center Administration, the first day is centered on a 2-hour expert participatory presentation by Mr. Brian Palermo who has addressed ASLO and other groups on the subject of using acting techniques (improvisation) to more effectively communicate science to the public. On the second day we look forward to annual updates from our Unit Directors and Center Administration.

The Senate thanks Director Davidson and his planning team at AL for all their work in hosting the Convocation. They will host a dinner and President's Award Ceremony at the Savage River Lodge, a most convivial venue.

A draft agenda is now being reviewed by the Senate and will soon be distributed to the Executive Council for their input.

2. UMCES Faculty Award

The Senate congratulates Mario Tamburi for his USM Regents Faculty Award for Excellence in Public Service. President Boesch alerted the community to this award and its condign recipient in an email dated 22 February.

3. President Search

UMCES Senators Lora Harris, Elizabeth North, Lee Cooper, and Lee Cooper addressed the President Search Committee on 8 February.

4. Shared Governance Survey

Senate Chair Dave Secor submitted the Senate Chairs Survey on the State of Shared Governance to CUSF. The survey serves as a chief instrument by which the Chancellor's Office evaluates how well shared governance operates on each USM campus.

5. Director Reviews

Under direction from President Boesch, the Senate Chair (Secor) and co-Chair (Dave Nelson) and Senators Jeff Cornwell, Elizabeth North, Lora Harris, and Lee Cooper participated in reviews of Directors Mike Roman (HPL) and Tom Miller (CBL) under an expedited schedule, successfully completing them last December. The Senate thanks Jeff and Lora for their strong leadership in organizing these evaluations.

6. Ongoing work

The Senate convened 17 January. Action items included (1) plans to develop portions of an UMCES faculty handbook in cooperation with the the GFC; (2) documentation of practices undertaken during the recent Director reviews; (3) planning for a 2017 junior faculty retreat; and (4) convocation planning.

Minutes from that meeting are posted:

http://www.ca.umces.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/Senate_minutes011717.pdf