

January 24, 2017

Jones Room

3:15 – 5 PM

# Emory University Senate Meeting Summary

*The University Senate is an essential component of University governance. It is comprised of Emory faculty, staff, and students.*

## Honorary Degree Nominees

Joe Crespino, Chair of the Senate Honorary Degree Committee, announced the recommendations of the five honorary degree nominees that will go forward to the Board of Trustees.

## Emory Student Government Reorganization

Student Government Association (SGA) President, Max Zoberman and Graduate Student Government Association (GSGA) President, Jared Greenbaum outlined the upcoming SGA-GSGA Referendum. **Senate Motion:** The Senate voted to endorse the SGA-GSGA Referendum, Bill 50SL19 to reorganize the SGA and GSGA into two equal, autonomous Student Government Associations.

## Commission on Racial and Social Justice

Dona Yarbrough, Chair of the Senate Advisory Council on Community and Diversity Committee outlined the progress report for the Racial Justice Initiative, whose purpose is to develop and advance strategies and tactics that achieve the university's racial and social justice goals, provide counsel and advocacy, and report on progress. She invited working group members, at-large Commission representatives, and staff and alumni representatives to join Emory's Commission on Racial and Social Justice.

## Committee on the Environment and the Campus Life Center

Hiram Maxim, Co-chair of the Senate Committee on the Environment (CoE), spoke about the Committee's general mission to evaluate the environmental impacts of projects on Emory's campus. Maxim requested the Senate to endorse a CoE Resolution that there will be a timeline established for the Campus Life Center to achieve net-zero energy by 2022, a goal to achieve LEED Gold status, and the evaluation of options for renewable energy on campus. **Senate Motion:** The Senate voted to endorse the Committee on the Environment's Resolution to establish university timelines to achieve the energy sustainability initiatives of the Campus Life Center.

## Climate@Emory Initiative

Daniel Rochberg, faculty at the Rollins School of Public Health and Chief Strategy Officer for the Climate@Emory Initiative, summarized the three goals of the Initiative to 1) increase scholarship to deepen the world's understanding of climate science, impacts, and solutions, 2) empower today's students through teaching to become tomorrow's leaders, and 3) advance climate policy and practice at Emory and our local and global communities and addressed the Senate concerning the issues surrounding global climate change. Rochberg cited the activities of faculty and students involved in the Initiative, and he expressed the need for universities to take the lead on global climate change initiatives.

## Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

In response to the "sanctuary campus" petition circulated in late November, 2016, the Senate discussion was organized in two parts: 1) updates from various corners of the University about Emory's response to the DACA issue and the petition from Suzanne Onorato, Assistant Vice President for Community, with Campus Life; Rita Sheffey, Assistant Dean for Public Service, Emory Law; Lisa Garvin, Associate Dean of the Chapel and Chaplain, Office of Spiritual and Religious Life; Adrienne Slaughter, Office of Student Success Programs and Services, Campus Life; and John Leach, Director of Financial Aid; and 2) reports from various faculty and student Senate representatives after polling their constituents regarding the petition.

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For details of the meeting, see the complete [Senate Minutes](#)

