

February 28, 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, presented the final slate of five candidates to advance to a list of honorary degree nominees that will go forward to the Board of Trustees. The slate of candidates was approved, with one abstention.

Oxford College Student Report

Muhammad Naveed, President of the Oxford Student Government Association, outlined the recent activities and achievements of Oxford College students. He also outlined future actions and projects.

Emory's Response to President Trump's Executive Order on Travel and Immigration

Philip Wainwright, Vice Provost for International Affairs, Rick Huizinga, coordinator of international student life for Emory Campus Life's Office of International Student Life, and Shinn Ko, director of Emory's International Student and Scholar Services, summarized actions their respective offices have been taking to support Emory's international students following President Trump's Jan. 27 executive order banning travel from seven predominantly Muslim nations. Various members of the Senate also contributed to the discussion about how their schools are responding to the Executive Order, citing activities such as organizing town halls, webinars, and other forums for discussion.

President Sterk's Call to Action

Wendland reviewed President Claire E. Sterk's Call to Action, a document issued to the University Senate Executive Committee on Feb. 20. It charges the Senate to form a working group comprised of faculty, staff and students to 1) Propose activities in which the Emory community can engage during this semester to foster community building and community self-care, and 2) Gather information to produce an inclusive assessment of the wide range of views that exist within the community. The charge generated conversation about the need for guidelines on what kind of political activism is permitted. Wendland called for volunteers to form a working group to address the Call to Action. Four Senate members came forward, and other Senate members said they would disseminate the call to their respective constituents.

Faculty Staff Assistance Program

Paula Gomes, director of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) gave a presentation on the mission and services of this campus resource, which provides free, confidential services and promotes wellness to nearly 30,000 Emory employees and their immediate families. Other FSAP services include: conflict resolution; leadership consultation, mediation services and facilitated discussions; conflict coaching; and process groups.

Interim Provost Zola Remarks

Interim Provost Stuart Zola summarized how Emory is responding to the Trump administration's move to revoke federal guidelines that provide transsexual students access to gender-identified restrooms. The university has issued a statement that affirms support for individual students determining their own perception of their gender and should "use the facility they feel appropriate to them."

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

[Visit the
University
Senate
website](#)

