

News from the Emory University Senate

Adapted from Kimber Williams and Maria Lameiras

Unified Health System

The possibility of creating a new, unified health system by combining Emory Healthcare and WellStar Health System was the focus of a presentation by Michael Mandl, Executive Vice President for Business and Administration. Mandl described the [ongoing discussions](#) as part of an “exciting potential initiative” that could combine the strengths of two healthcare systems that collectively serve some 4 million residents in eight Georgia counties with 11 hospitals and over 3,000 beds. Working from a framework of shared values – such as excellence, caring, integrity and optimism – Emory and WellStar agreed to continue discussions, he said.

Sexual Assault Prevention Survey

Associate Research Professor Jessica McDermott Sales and doctoral student Kathleen Krause, both in the Department of Behavioral Sciences in the Rollins School of Public Health, gave a report about efforts by the Committee for the Prevention of Sexual Violence to develop a survey that will gather data about sexual violence at Emory. There will be two surveys, one for students and one for faculty, which are being developed by a team of faculty, staff and students, Sales said. Questions will be tailored to Emory, although a sample survey developed by the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault will guide many of the questions.

University Promise

The University Senate also heard a presentation by Eric Bymaster, who chairs the University Senate Class and Labor Implementation Committee. In response to the desire that Emory community members be treated equitably, the committee had been asked to explore developing an “Emory Promise,” similar to a pledge now used in the School of Medicine. After examining Emory’s [Statement of Ethical Principles](#), Bymaster reported that the committee recommends that every school and unit first examine (or develop) their own core values and ethical principles and report back to the Senate.



From the President's Desk

Dear Colleagues, I am delighted that the Senate hosted this month an open conversation about the Emory-Wellstar Initiative, and we look forward to upcoming discussions about Emory’s policies on authorship and research misconduct, and well as new retirement and work-family benefits under consideration for faculty and staff. We invite all members of the Emory community to engage in shared governance through the University Senate, University Faculty Council, University Employee Council, Student Government Associations, or your respective schools, colleges, and units.

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The Emory University Senate is comprised of faculty, staff, and students. It is the primary governance structure of the university. For more information visit our website: senate.emory.edu.