

March 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.

- Election of 2017-2018 Officers**
- The new Senate officers for the 2017-2018 year are Dr. Jason Schneider (School of Medicine) as President-elect and Kelli Pittman (School of Law) as Secretary.
- President Sterk's Call to Action**
- Senate President Wendland updated the Senate regarding President Sterk's "Courageous Moral Action and Community Engagement" call-to-action. The working group, which was formed in February to respond and is comprised of faculty, staff, and students, had its first meeting discussed various short-term and long-term activities. These include establishing a clearinghouse to post ideas and activities of events that are already going on within the Emory community; engaging various schools, utilizing conversation tools of compassion, and embracing values outside of our own political differences.
- Emory Statement on Civil Discourse**
- The Faculty Statement on Civility originated from a response in the University Faculty Council to the Class and Labor II report. Since the Statement embraces the entire Emory community, the Faculty Council voted to bring it before the Senate for discussion and endorsement. The Senate members discussed changing the title to better represent the Emory community. **Senate Motion:** A motion was passed for the Senate's endorsement of the newly titled Emory Statement on Civil Discourse (see the March 28 meeting minutes for the full text). President Sterk suggested President Wendland and President-elect Bayerle bring the Statement to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board.
- Personal vs. Professional at Emory**
- Senate President Wendland opened the floor to continue the discussion from last month regarding how and where we draw the line between our personal beliefs and our role as representatives of Emory. Senate members discussed how the various political issues under discussion around campus bolster the need for a clearinghouse as a centralized location for all the activities, events, and committees involved in the Emory-wide "civil discourse" conversations.
- President Sterk's Remarks**
- President Claire Sterk spoke to the Senate members about Emory University's future to ensure the wider community knows who Emory is, what Emory stands for, and where Emory wants to go. In addition, she spoke about the importance for everyone to have a sense for what is happening on Emory's campus so people can make choices for what they want to be a part of. She identified "Emory's Three C's," which are competition, collaboration, and compassion.
- Employee Council**
- Past Employee Council President Linda Jackson and President-elect Deena Keeler spoke to the Senate about Emory's Employee Council background and provided a review of this year's events. The 2016-2017 Employee Council's theme was "The Greatness of Emory." Several of the Employee Council events include monthly meetings, sustainability achievements, Coffee with a Cop, the Emory Hardship fund, Veteran's Day ceremony, Oxford and Grady campus visits, and the annual Spring Town Hall. This year's Spring Town Hall will be April 12, 2017 on the Campus Pavilion.
- Alumni Association**
- Laurie Speed and Joey Shea provided the Senate with an overview and orientation to the work of the Emory Alumni Association (EAA) and Emory Alumni Board. The Emory Alumni Association's mission is to connect alumni to the university and each other, build traditions, foster student and alumni leadership, serve the diverse needs and interests of our community, and create opportunities for investment in Emory's future. The Emory Alumni Board supports the Emory Alumni Association's mission and priorities. Several major initiatives include the University Scholarship Initiative, the Student-to-Alumni Experience Initiative and award and leadership selection.
- Interim Provost Zola's Remarks**
- Provost Zola addressed the Senate, stressing the need for open communication within the Emory community. Zola challenged the Senate to think about how we can all communicate Emory's "Three C's" to our students, staff, faculty, and alumni, as well as to the Atlanta and global communities.

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

