

# UNIVERSITY SENATE

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**Director:** Veronica Marin

The University Senate, an integral part of the university's system of shared governance, has representation from all members of the campus community: faculty, staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students. Participation in the University Senate or any of its 10 Standing Committees is an honor and a responsibility.

The full University Senate meets approximately nine times a year to consider matters of concern to the institution, including educational, budgetary, and personnel matters; campus-community matters; long-range plans; facilities; and faculty, staff, and student affairs. The University Senate directly advises the President on academic programs, university policies, long-range plans, and plans of organization.

To become an undergraduate student Senator, students must be elected by other students in the advising college of their primary major or the Office of Undergraduate Studies in centralized, online elections. Elections are held every year during the spring semester. All students are also encouraged to participate in University Senate standing committees, such as Student Affairs, Educational Affairs, and Campus Affairs that are responsible for making recommendations to the University Senate. These committees draw membership from the campus community at large and cover every aspect of campus life and function. Details about the election and committee volunteer processes can be found at <http://senate.umd.edu>.