

University Senate

February 6, 2014 Pre-Meeting Email

Compiled by Ryan Zerr

Members of the University Senate,

In what has now become a firmly established tradition (dating all the way back to November), I send you this email to preview next week's University Senate meeting (Thursday, February 6, 4:05 pm, **Education Room 113**). But before that preview, first let me mention that cookies and coffee will be available before the Senate meeting, starting at 3:30 in Education 113. Not only will this provide everyone with some refreshments during the meeting, but perhaps it might even be an incentive to come a bit early to engage in conversation. Whether that's possible or not given your busy schedules, look for the treats and take some on your way in.

At Senate I will provide updates on, among other things, the outcome from the Shared Governance & Leadership Interest Group meeting that was held on December 13, and on the plan to conduct this year's University Council elections online. We will hear from Carrie Herrig, the Director of the U2 Program, about the programming U2 has to offer. The Provost will also make an announcement regarding a program and services prioritization process that will soon get underway. I believe this latter announcement will be of particular interest to many, and I hope you'll be able to attend to hear it.

The Senate's business calendar includes honorary degree nominations, as well as two items carried over from the December meeting:

- Proposed changes to the tenure and promotion policies in the Faculty Handbook; and
- A proposed amendment to the UND Constitution that will expand the membership of the University Council to include all benefited faculty.

The first of these was tabled at the December meeting (see the December 5 Senate Agenda for the specific language of this proposal). The second, concerning the constitutional amendment, was approved in December. However, constitutional amendments must be approved at two consecutive Senate meetings, and thus we will again have the matter before us. In addition to the information concerning this that I sent in my email preceding the December Senate meeting, we now know that this change to the Constitution would add approximately 150 individuals to the University Council.

I look forward to seeing you next week at Senate. As I mentioned above, there will be refreshments available starting at 3:30, and if you're able, please feel free to come early to Education 113 to engage in some pre-meeting conversation.

Ryan