The University Senate is an essential component of University governance. It is comprised of Emory faculty, staff, and students.

Updates and announcements included the Board of Trustees approval of changing the Senate committee-selection timeline; a call for Senate members or committee chairs to communicate any topics, concerns, or issues for consideration as spring 2017 agenda items; request for Senate members to ensure their constituents are receiving the meeting summaries; possible next steps in strengthening communication structures; discussion of recording the Senate meetings; passing a resolution that the monthly Senate meetings may be recorded for the sole purpose to help create the official minutes and campus communications; and initial discussion of the Campus Safe Space Petition, with a motion to table in-depth discussion until the January meeting.

First, Dr. Sid Stein addressed the Senate concerning the Emory Retirement Program litigation in process. Next, Del King, interim Vice President from Human Resources, addressed the Senate about the paid parental leave for staff.

April Flint, Director of Emory’s Recreation and Wellness Program, addressed the Senate about the Recreation and Wellness Program’s vision, mission, and goals. The recreation and wellness curriculum and programs are available to the entire Emory community of students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Scott Rausch, Director of Emory’s Residence Life, addressed the Senate about Residence Life’s vision, mission, and purpose for Emory’s student body. Rausch spoke about Residence Life’s values that include a flourishing community, critical inquiry, cultural humility, courageous integrity, social justice, and personal and professional excellence.

Craig Watson, the Associate Vice President of Public Safety, addressed the Senate concerning the new restructuring of the Emory Police Department. His administrative responsibilities encompass fire safety, Emergency Medical Services, oversight of the Federal Cleary Act compliance efforts, the physical security services across campus, and the electronics’ security services. Then, Rus Drew, Emory’s Chief-of-Police, addressed the Senate about his new role with Emory. Drew previously served as Chief-of-Police on three other Georgia college campuses. Interim Provost Zola added that a new electronic application called LiveSafe will enhance safety and coordination with the police department on and around the Emory campus.

For details of the meeting, see the complete Senate Minutes.