



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

PARENT AND FAMILY AFFAIRS

PARENT/FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MISSION

The University of Maryland Parent/Family Advisory Council strives to foster student success and enhance the campus community by actively engaging the parents and families of undergraduate students in support of the university through events, programs, and fundraising.

The purpose of University of Maryland Parent/Family Advisory Council is to:

- Serve as ambassadors for the University of Maryland among the parents and family members of undergraduate students;
- Represent the Maryland Parent & Family Association to the Office of Parent and Family Affairs, Division of Student Affairs, and the larger University of Maryland community;
- Serve as an ongoing forum for building and maintaining a strong bond with the University;
- Energize parent and family resources on the University's behalf by making leadership gifts, awarding scholarships and grants, and hosting events;
- Distribute Parent & Family Association finances through the Initiatives Fund grant program and the Student Scholarship Award program;
- Sponsor programs to encourage other families to make gifts in support of the University.

ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The Parent/Family Advisory Council is a group of dedicated parent volunteers who serve as ambassadors for the University of Maryland among the parents and family members of undergraduate students and provide feedback to the Office of Parent and Family Affairs on issues of particular interest to parents and families. The Parent/Family Advisory Council directs the Maryland Parent & Family Association and meets three times each year to discuss issues; learn more about University developments affecting students; plan programs and events to involve parents and families in the life of the University; participate in broadening and deepening relationships in support of the University; and allocate finances through the Parents & Families Initiative Fund and Parent & Family Association Student Scholarship Fund.

The Parent/Family Advisory Council is made up of parents and family members of current undergraduate students who are also members of the Parent & Family Association. The Council consists of approximately 50 individuals representing a diverse spectrum of students' degree programs and academic/class standing. Membership is comprised of a National Chair or Chairs, committee chairs, Members-at-Large, and Emeritus Members. The Parent/Family Advisory Council is appointed by the Director of Parent and Family Affairs, in consultation with the Vice President for Student Affairs, and all members serve a two-year term. The two-year terms are renewable at the invitation of the Office of Parent and Family Affairs and individuals may serve until their student's graduation from UMD.

The Parent/Family Advisory Council distributes Parent & Family Association finances through two special programs: the Initiative Fund grant program and the Student Scholarship Award program. Past recipients of Initiative Fund grants include Alternative Breaks Need-based Scholarships, the Hazing Prevention Initiative, University Career Center Unpaid Internship Grants, Stamp Study Zone programs, Abstinence & Safer Sex Kits, and the Math Success Program (tutoring). Contributions made to the Maryland Parent & Family Association directly impact the lives of students and enhance their academic and co-curricular experience at the University.

As part of their commitment to the Parent/Family Advisory Council and the University, Council members support these special Maryland Parent & Family Association funds and/or other programs in the Division of Student Affairs with annual gifts throughout their appointed term. The Council also sponsors programs to encourage other families to make gifts in support of the University.

EXPECTATIONS

- Attend the Fall, Winter, and Spring meetings of the Parent/Family Advisory Council. Members must attend a minimum of two out of three meetings.
- Participate in a minimum of two volunteer opportunities throughout the year;
- Participate on at least one Council committee.
- Provide input and ideas at meetings and on a regular basis, and contribute knowledge of your student's experience to help inform practices.
- Represent the interests of all Terp families and serve as an ambassador, working to engage other parents and families in supporting University efforts.
- Make a gift annually to the Division of Student Affairs in accordance with your capability and preferably at a leadership level (\$1,000+) by December of each year.

STRUCTURE OF THE COUNCIL

National Chair(s)

Chair(s), Special Events and Outreach Committee

Chair(s), Student Scholarship Award Committee

Members-at-Large

Emeritus Members

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

Special Events and Outreach

The Special Events Committee brainstorms programs and events to engage parents in the Maryland Parent & Family Association and the University community. Members of this committee assist with the coordination of Family Weekend and the recruitment of volunteers for Spring Open Houses and Move-In Weekend.

Student Scholarship Award

The Student Scholarship Award Committee is responsible for coordinating the application review and award process for the Maryland Parent & Family Association Student Scholarship Award. The committee meets in May of each year to review applications and award scholarships for the following academic year.

2019-2020 MEETING/EVENT DATES

Fall Meeting: Saturday, September 28, 2019

Winter Meeting: Saturday, January 25, 2020

Spring Meeting: Saturday, April 25, 2020