



UMBI Senate Constitution

(Approved by the UMBI Senate on January 26, 2007 and by the UMBI President on January 29, 2007)

I. PURPOSE

The UMBI Senate of the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute (UMBI), hereinafter referred to as the UMBI Senate or the Senate, is a representative organization established to provide an effective voice in the deliberation of policies and to enter into a partnership of shared governance with the UMBI administration.

A guiding principle of shared governance among people of reason and good will is a mutual respect and regard for each other. Such regard is manifested, among other ways, in the sharing of information and in consultation among appropriate representatives and officers of the community on all matters of mutual concern. In this spirit, the President of UMBI through appropriate representation will consult with and seek the advice of the Senate, who in turn will respond appropriately to such consultation and keep the UMBI community informed of matters pertaining to the conditions and status of UMBI and the welfare of its members.

The Senate is an essential forum for promoting adequate and productive communication between the UMBI faculty and staff and UMBI administration. It will serve as both an advisory body to the President of UMBI and as an appropriate forum recognized by the Chancellor of the University System and the Board of Regents, for the expression of the concerns and interests of the UMBI community.

II. OPERATION

The Senate will develop By-Laws consistent with this Constitution and will establish its own rules of procedure.

III. MEMBERSHIP

The Senate will consist of representatives elected by the faculty and staff of the constituent units of UMBI. The Senate, through its By-Laws, will determine the eligibility for, and procedures for election of, its members.

For purposes of representation on the Senate, the constituent units of UMBI are the Central Administration (CA) and each of its Research Centers.

CA will elect two staff members to represent them on the Senate. Each Research Center will elect two faculty members, at least one of whom should hold a tenured or tenure-track appointment, and one staff member to represent them on the Senate. In addition to these representative Senators, all graduate students and all Research Associates at UMBI will each elect one person to represent them on the Senate as at-large Senators. The representative Senators will meet to elect the Senate Chair, who is an at-large Senator.

IV. ADOPTION

This Constitution will become effective following: (1) initial approval by a two-thirds vote of the Senate; (2) referral to the faculty and staff of UMBI for consideration and comment; (3) final approval by a two-thirds vote of the Senate; (4) acceptance and signed approval by the

President of UMBI.

V. **AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member of the Senate. Amendments will be adopted following: (1) initial approval by a two-thirds vote of the Senate; (2) referral of the proposed amendments to the faculty and staff of UMBI for consideration and comment; (3) final approval by a two-thirds vote of the Senate; (4) acceptance and signed approval by the President of UMBI.