

**COMPREHENSIVE LIST FROM STANDING COMMITTEES
COMPILED FROM THE FACULTY SENATE SURVEY FOR 2016-2017**

University Committee on Academic Governance (UCAG)

Gayle Lourens, Chairperson

- Query College Bylaws and provide information and a report on how colleges are addressing/referencing academic specialists.

University Committee on Undergraduate Education (UCUE)

Richard Miksicek, Chairperson

UCUE Identified 15 that would resonate, but many are recurrent. Below are some key current issues of concern:

- Commercialization of academic activities, e.g., for profit note taking and advising services.
- Development of cross-campus standards for freshmen seminar courses.
- Impact of social media on teaching.

University Committee on Curriculum

Jerry Urquhart, Chairperson

- Campus wide grade inflation.
- Evaluate the role of academic specialists in faculty affairs (such as curriculum).

University Committee on Faculty Affairs

Phylis Floyd, Chairperson

- Percentage of increasing licensing revenue to faculty.
- Revision to license and patent.
- Evaluate online courses and learning.
- Assessment of student learning on online learning.
- Salary Issues of MSU within Big 10 Academic Alliance rankings.
- Corruption of the tenure system caused by units' loss of tenure lines when individuals fail to achieve tenure.
- Increased reliance on specialists and fixed term faculty in teaching.
- The slipping rank of MSU on the 100 best colleges.

University Committee on Faculty Tenure

Michael Dease, Chairperson

- High tuition and student debt.
- Recruiting, retaining and rewarding exceptional faculty.
- Declining university benefits (especially related to health coverage).
- Presentations by the New Dean of the College of Human Medicine and the new Director of the Bioengineering Institute.
- Greater clarity in budget prioritization.
- Mechanisms to reduce student debt.

University Committee on Graduate Studies

Chris Hogan, Chairperson

- Part one on Instruction.
- UCGS regularly reviews graduate program and curriculum proposals and changes, providing input on how to make our graduate programs more competitive.
- UCGS regularly evaluates proposals related to non-synchronous instructional media, for example fully-online graduate degree and post-graduate certificate programs. The committee works to develop standards to evaluate new degree proposals and change-of-requirements proposals to ensure the academic integrity of these degrees.
- UCGS annually makes recommendations related to graduate RA and TE compensation and benefits.

University Committee on Student Affairs

Alexandria Kuhl, Chairperson

- Providing mental health services and ensuring that with the new reorganization students are not left in need.
- Increasing access to all buildings on campus for students with disabilities (many are lacking).
- Continuing to improve the climate surrounding diversity and women's issues on campus.
- Ensuring safety of pedestrians in light of the increased reliance on mopeds (and bicycles to a lesser extent), particularly those driving on the sidewalk.
- This was not on the survey, but concerns about the newly implemented academic dishonesty policy arose in our discussions. While good in theory, the policy (anecdotally) disproportionately affects ESL students, and fails to distinguish between major and minor offenses, potentially limiting future opportunities for students.

COGS (COGS is not a standing committee but report requested.)

Dee Jordon, COGS President

- The Council of Graduate Students (COGS) is the governing body for all graduate and professional students at MSU
- COGS is a tax collecting unit. The COGS tax is up for renewal every 3 years, the most recent renewal occurred in 2016. Renewal of the COGS tax is by student vote. All graduate and professional students are eligible to vote for the tax renewal and increase if applicable.
- COGS consist of a nine-member Executive Board (five elected Officers, two appointed positions and two professional school liaisons), an 84-member Full Council (representing Departments/Programs and Student Groups across campus)
- COGS is dedicated to advancing the well-being and professional interests of graduate and professional students at Michigan State University through education, advocacy and service.
- COGS is governed by a Constitution and Bylaws, and meetings are conducted using parliamentary procedures.
- COGS meets once a month to discuss and pass legislation for action items relevant to graduate/professional student initiatives, to advocate on behalf of constituent concerns and determine ways to support the MSU and Greater Lansing Community.
- COGS has nine internal committees and COGS Board Members and Representatives serve on all University-level Committees including the University Council, Steering Committee, Faculty Senate and University Committee for Graduate Studies