

Faculty Healthcare Council

Applications for Steering Committee Consideration

Office of Academic Governance

September 6, 2022

Background

Section 5.3.3.1. of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* reads, “Faculty members of the [Faculty Healthcare Council] shall be appointed by the Steering Committee from a list initiated by the University Committee on Academic Governance pursuant to its annual call for volunteers to committees, boards, and panels (4.3.9.); the list shall be submitted to the FHC, which shall then submit its recommendations to the Steering Committee.”

A vacancy on the Faculty Healthcare Council was created by the resignation of Katherine Dontje, meaning a replacement must be named for the remainder of the 2020–2026 term. Last spring, the University Committee on Academic Governance sought applicants and sent the list of applicants to the current members of the Faculty Healthcare Council.

On August 17, 2022, Faculty Healthcare Council Chairperson Tunga Kiyak informed Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri that the Faculty Healthcare Council had reviewed the applications and “felt that all three applicants were well-qualified,” noting that FHC “would be happy with any of them.”

Please review the applications and vote for one person to finish the 2022–2026 term. The applications are presented verbatim and in random order.


Connie Currier

Unit: College of Human Medicine

Academic Appointment & Rank: Assistant Professor - Fixed-Term

Initial MSU Appointment: 1993

Previous Academic Governance Service: None



Please explain why you are interested in serving on the Faculty Healthcare Council and what qualifies you to do so.

I am interested in the health service utilization of the faculty and how MSU can best manage resources to meet those needs. During my DrPH in health policy I examined the costs and utilization of hysterectomy in PPOs vs. fee-for-service organizations. As a public health faculty member I teach students about the US health care system - financing, service delivery, payment, and issues related to quality of care. I would be honored to serve on a committee that assisted with the planning, design and implementation of healthcare and health care benefit programs offered by the University.

Please provide a brief statement about your past activities and/or future plans that have advanced or will aim to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, using your own understanding of those terms.

Recently in the MPH program we have been discussing diversity, equity and inclusion, that is, what we as faculty can do in our courses to promote and support the diversity of students of different races/ethnicities, sexual orientations, genders, abilities/disabilities, religions/beliefs, ages, SES, etc. Many of us have begun including diversity statements in our syllabi. Here is mine: I respect the diversity of people, perspectives, and identities that are represented by the individuals in this course. We are shaped by our multiple identities: race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability, socioeconomic status, religion, and others. I acknowledge intersectionality - where these identities overlap with each other and with systems of power and privilege – and everyone’s individual experience of discrimination and the need to address it. This course is a place where we should feel free to express ourselves and our multiple identities, where mutual respect and a diversity of perspectives are essential to the generation of new ideas and critical thought. If anyone has any concerns about communication in this course – or anything else – please feel free to reach out to me.

Per section 5.3.3.2. of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance*, this candidate acknowledged that the work of Faculty Healthcare Council continues during the summer months.


Ping Wang

Unit: College of Human Medicine

Academic Appointment & Rank: Assistant Professor - Not Tenured

Initial MSU Appointment: 2018

Previous Academic Governance Service: None



Please explain why you are interested in serving on the Faculty Healthcare Council and what qualifies you to do so.

I would like to share my thoughts and experiences by becoming a member of the Faculty Healthcare Council. I am an tenure-track assistant professor from College of Human Medicine, I have worked in clinical research institutes for more than 10 years. I am committed to serving as the faculty voice on issues related to the healthcare plans and will work closely with the University Committee on Faculty Affairs on matters concerning the economic impact of health benefits.

Please provide a brief statement about your past activities and/or future plans that have advanced or will aim to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, using your own understanding of those terms.

I understand research work in my lab will make an even bigger impact on education through the outreach activities that are developed for MSU and local communities with an emphasis on broadening participation of women and minorities in interdisciplinary research. My research group has attracted underrepresented and minority students. I have been actively participating in the MSU university-wide Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP), which provides an opportunity to combine professional development with applied work experience for underrepresented and minority undergraduates in the country. The goal is to increase the number of underrepresented students who pursue graduate study and research careers. I have mentored 5 undergraduates who participated in SROP in the last four consecutive years (three African American, two Hispanic, and two female students). One student was awarded a travel scholarship for SACNAS-the National Diversity in STEM Conference in 2018 in San Antonio, TX. In future, I will continue to work closely with the MSU SROP and other outreaching program including the MSU High School Honors Science/Engineering/Mathematics Program (HSHSP) by leading seminars, providing general guidance, and mentoring students in research, career planning and leadership skill development.

Per section 5.3.3.2. of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance*, this candidate acknowledged that the work of Faculty Healthcare Council continues during the summer months.

Maryanne Walker

Unit: College of Osteopathic Medicine

Academic Appointment & Rank: Senior Academic Specialist - Research - Fixed-Term

Initial MSU Appointment: 2000

Previous Academic Governance Service: None



Please explain why you are interested in serving on the Faculty Healthcare Council and what qualifies you to do so.

I am completing a PhD in Kinesiology, a second terminal degree. I've been deeply entrenched in health and wellbeing. I am also committed to ensuring that employee health benefits reflect the highest commitment from the institution, to support our faculty and staff throughout their time at MSU and into retirement.

Please provide a brief statement about your past activities and/or future plans that have advanced or will aim to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, using your own understanding of those terms.

My entire career pathway has focused on issues related to social justice and serving the underserved. My research focuses on K-12 development, working in lower SES communities, on advancing wellbeing and teaching children self-regulation of the body. Diversity recognizes that we as an institution are stronger together when others who have experiences unlike our own, get a seat at the table to discuss, plan and advance strategic insights. Equity means that everyone has an equal chance of having access, having their voice heard. Inclusion allows for all to be engaged in opportunities to advance access, opportunities for success, and be heard, share their lived experiences.

Per section 5.3.3.2. of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance*, this candidate acknowledged that the work of Faculty Healthcare Council continues during the summer months.