

Report to the Steering Committee | February 7, 2023

Actions Taken at Recent Meetings

January 19, 2023

The ASMSU General Assembly met for a full session meeting on January 19. Interim President Teresa K. Woodruff and Student Legal Services presented to the General Assembly. No bills were considered during the meeting.

Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

The General Assembly will have committees on Thursday, February 9.

Requests for the Steering Committee

Financial Aid Concerns

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Actions Taken at Recent Meetings

January 18, 2023

- 23-SS-20: Resolution to support the Write Winning Grants workshop
- Information session for those interested in learning more about COGS and COGS E-Board scheduled for February 6, 2023
- Opportunities for COGS Representatives
 - Graduate School Website Focus Group
 - Dean of Libraries Search Committee
- Spring semester funding
- Graduate Academic Conference update
- ASMSU has drafted amendments that would amend student liaison positions to officially add the RHA, fix some position titles, and to add a CORES & COPS liaisons
- MSU Religious Observance Policy
- COGS Bike Committee

Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

- COGS E-Board Informational Session will take place on February 8, 2023.
- Graduate Academic Conference will take place on February 18, 2023.
- COGS General Information Session will take place later in February.
- COGS Coffee and Connection events on February 8 and February 21, 2023.
- Graduate Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Call for nominations for Executive Board positions
 - Elections for elected positions will take place at March COGS Full Council meeting.
 - Applications for appointed positions available until the end of March.
 - New E-Board will select new appointed positions.

Requested Support from the Steering Committee and/or the Office of Academic Governance

Bethany Meadows and Keaton Kirkpatrick (co-presidents to the Writing, Rhetoric, and Praxis GSO) have emailed various offices and personnel that are involved with the

approval and maintenance of the bylaws for Graduate Student Rights and Responsibilities (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/graduate-student-rights-responsibilities/index.html>) in hope of a response to their questions, as follows: "As graduate students within our department's student organization, we are in the process of advocating for graduate student voting rights (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/graduate-student-rights-responsibilities/article-six-academic-governance.html>), as defined in Article 6 on Student Life's website. We have a few questions to aid in our process for this: We can see the history of approval (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/graduate-student-rights-responsibilities/history-of-approval.html>) and that it was most recently revised in 2014 with COGS and University Committee on Graduate Studies weighing in. I also see the University Committee on Graduate Studies had this on their minutes (<https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/UCGS/UCGS%20Minutes%202%203%202014%20draft.pdf>) and agenda (<https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/UCGS/Agenda-UGC-%20February%203%202014.pdf>) on February 3, 2014 for voting; however, that seems to be about Article 5 rather than Article 6. Can we be given more information about this history and context for Article 6 (note, I copied Dr. Halvorsen on the email as the most current UCGS Chairperson)? Is there a list of departments and/or colleges on campus that provide graduate students with voting rights within their college/department? Is there a definition for what has constituted "graduate student affairs" (6.1.2) for other departments? We are receiving a lot of faculty pushback to move Department bylaws to conform to the outlined Graduate Student Rights and Responsibilities. Thus, is there a representative that can serve to help us secure these voting rights within our department from the Graduate School and/or Student Life Department?

If this request would be better forwarded to other departments/personnel, feel free to do so and let COGS know.

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The committee considered a request to expand voting rights for faculty and academic staff. The committee endorsed an amendment to the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* that would amend sections 1.1.2.1. and 1.1.2.5. of the *Bylaws* to allow all faculty and academic staff to vote and serve on university-level academic governance bodies without regard to their length of service.

Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

The committee plans to continue discussing faculty and academic staff voting rights and finish reviewing college bylaws.

Requested Support from the Steering Committee and/or the Office of Academic Governance

The committee requests that the Steering Committee place the item on the next University Council agenda.

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Actions Taken at Recent Meetings

January 5, 2023

Discussion of a) developing new library catalog interface, b) floorplans for remodeling including adding a Starbucks and renovation of 3 East to house special collections, and c) update on search for the dean of libraries.

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No meetings in January 2023.

Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

Continue to review requests for extension of the tenure clock. Respond to any requests from Steering Committee.

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Actions Taken at Recent Meetings

January 28, 2023

In addition to approving the new MSU Instructional Rating System Policy, we approved 28 requests related to graduate programs. Also, Doug Gage and Lee Cox attended UCGS to discuss ways that UCGS can support the work of the Research Integrity Office.

Updates on Outstanding Items

- Item 2021-11: Replacement of SIRS
 - At our January 23, 2022 meeting, we approved the new MSU Instructional Rating System Policy. By February 10, we will provide feedback on the framework for selecting questions and the recommended institutional questions for campus.
- Item 2223-20: 9-Month and 12-Month Appointment System Supervisors
 - Anne-Lise Halvorsen met with Jamie Alan to learn more about the charge of the working group and initial response from UCGA. Then, invited UCGS members to serve as volunteers for this working group. So far, Anne-Lise Halvorsen, Trixie Smith, and Maria Kloboves (COGS) have volunteered to be part of the working group. We are working on scheduling our first meeting.

Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

Will continue to hear updates related to the progress of the sub-committees and the working group on the 9 month v. 12 month faculty appointment matter.

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January 5, 2023

UCUE supported a request to add an Admission Requirement for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Urban and Regional Planning UCUE discussed issues around the process of establishing course equivalencies for semester abroad experiences. The item will be further discussed at the next meeting. UCUE selected two replacement representatives on the SIRS replacement committee. The current representatives are Patty West, Kathy Gallo, and Antoinette Tessmer.

January 19, 2023

UCUE supported a request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Physics Available for Secondary Certification UCUE supported a request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Earth Science for Secondary Certification UCUE supported a request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Chemistry Available for Secondary Certification UCUE supported a request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Biology Available for Secondary Certification UCUE supported a request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Biological Science Secondary Certification UCUE supported a request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Physical Science Secondary Certification UCUE supported a request for a New Minor in Physics UCUE supported a request for a New Minor in Design Justice UCUE formed an ad hoc sub-committee on course equivalencies for semester abroad. The sub-committee reports to the Provost. The committee is open to representatives from the Office for Education Abroad (Inge Steglitz), the Office of the Registrar (Kimberly Blair Chambers), Student Advising (Beth Judge) and APUE. UCUE representation on the sub-committee are Matt Zierler, Marissa King, Antoinette Tessmer, and an ASMSU representative (TBD).

Updates on Outstanding Items

[Updates on current Open Items in the academic governance [tracking system](#) that have been assigned to the committee]

- Item 2021-56: College of Education Fifth-Year Internship Requirement Nothing to report.
- Item 2223-10: Presence and Absence Policies
 - The Subcommittee met for the second time on Thursday, January 26 and continued its discussion on current university policy and potential revisions to the policy. There is agreement on the following: the university policy needs to be made available to faculty, students, and staff in a

central location there is justification for a revision of current policies The subcommittee also debated the utility of a class attendance portal.

- Item 2021-11: Replacement of SIRS
 - On January 19th, 2023, UCUE discussed the MSU Instructional Rating System Policies and raised a few items to be taken into consideration by the SIRS replacement committee (confidentiality). UCUE supported the MSU Instructional Rating System Policies with the expectation that issues raised during the discussion be addressed in a timely manner UCUE discussed the Instructional Rating System Recommended Implementation. On February 2, 2023, UCUE representatives on the SIRS replacement committee reported progress made on the development of a draft list of proposed institution-wide survey questions. UCUE members were asked to share the proposed list with their constituencies and provide feedback by 2/10/2023.
- Item 2223-18: Course Equivalency for Study Abroad
 - Nothing to report.