

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL (By-Laws for Academic Governance Section 3.2)

3.2.1. Composition of the University Council

3.2.1.1 The University Council shall be composed of the members of Faculty Senate, selected pursuant to 3.3.1., the Appointed Council, all faculty serving as Chairpersons of College Advisory Committees (or their designees), the Chairperson of Athletic Council (or the Chairperson's designee), members of the Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) selected pursuant to 3.2.4.1., members of the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) selected pursuant to 3.2.4.2., Chairpersons of University-level Standing Committees, The Steering Committee, the President, the Provost, and designated ex officio members.

3.2.1.1.1. Members of the Faculty Senate, whose composition is described in 3.3.1., shall sit on the University Council.

3.2.1.1.2 The Appointed Council shall be composed of all Deans, the Director of Libraries, the Director of the NSCL, the President, and the Provost.

3.2.1.1.3. ASMSU shall be composed of representatives selected pursuant to the constitution of ASMSU.

3.2.1.1.4. COGS shall be composed of students selected pursuant to the constitution of COGS.

3.2.1.1.5 The University Council shall have the following ex officio members: Vice President for Student Affairs and Services; Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies; Vice Provost for Libraries, Computing and Technology; Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement; Senior Associate Provost; Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Human Resources; Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies; Associate Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School; Associate Provost for Academic Student Services and Multicultural Issues; Associate Provost for Academic Services; University Registrar; Athletic Council Chairperson; Faculty Grievance Official; Secretary for Academic Governance, and Ombudsman. One representative of the faculty emeriti will serve ex officio with voice, but no vote.

3.2.2. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the University Council

3.2.2.1 The Chairperson of University Council is the President. The Chairperson will preside at all meetings of University Council.

3.2.2.2. The Vice Chairperson of University Council is the Provost. The Vice Chairperson will preside at meetings of University Council when the Chairperson is not in attendance.

3.2.2.3. When both the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson of the University Council cannot be in attendance at a meeting of University Council, the Chairperson will designate an individual, typically the Senior Associate Provost, to preside at that meeting.

3.2.3. Voting Members of the University Council

3.2.3.1. The voting members of the University Council shall be the faculty representatives elected as members of the Faculty Senate, ASMSU and COGS student representatives, designated members of University-level Standing Committees, voting members of The Steering Committee, and the members of the Appointed Council.

3.2.3.2. The voting members of ASMSU as determined by the constitution of ASMSU, shall serve on the University Council.

3.2.3.3. The voting members of COGS as determined by the constitution of COGS, shall serve on the University Council.

3.2.4. Student Representatives

3.2.4.1. ASMSU shall select a number of undergraduate student representatives to the University Council equal to one-third (1/3) of the total voting membership of the University Council. The number of representatives shall be rounded to the nearest integer. The overall selection shall ensure balanced collegiate representation.

3.2.4.1.1. Undergraduate student representatives to the University Council shall be chosen according to procedures established by the constitution of ASMSU and shall be chosen such that the diversity of the delegation is ensured.

3.2.4.2. Graduate Student Representatives: COGS shall select a number of graduate representatives to the University Council equal to three-fiftieths (3/50) of the total voting membership of the body. The number of representatives shall be rounded to the nearest integer. No more than one graduate representative may be from a single department, with consideration being given to University-wide representation insofar as possible.

3.2.4.2.1. Graduate student representatives to the University Council shall be chosen according to procedures established by the constitution of COGS and shall be chosen such that the diversity of the delegation is ensured.

3.2.5. Functions of the University Council

3.2.5.1. The University Council brings together faculty, student, and administration representatives to discuss issues that involve the entire University. While the Faculty Senate may seek input from the University Council on proposals regarding curricular issues, faculty tenure and promotion issues, and faculty salary and benefits issues, the primary focus of discussion in the University Council is on other issues that are not the core responsibility of the Faculty Senate.

3.2.5.2. The University Council shall consider and act upon all matters within its purview brought before it by The Steering Committee, shall consider and act upon all matters brought before it by the President or Provost, and shall provide a forum for the dissemination of information and exchange of views regarding University policy.

3.2.5.3. The University Council shall consider all major issues related to educational policy. The mode of participation shall be that which is specified on the matter in the ascription of functions to University-level Standing Committees (4.3.-4.9.).

3.2.5.4. As appropriate, the University Council's role is to communicate its views on key issues facing the University.

3.2.5.5. The University Council may refer items to the Academic Congress for consideration and action.

3.2.5.6. The University Council may consult on any other matter pertaining to the general welfare of the University.

3.2.5.7. The University Council shall propose procedures to the Board of Trustees for the participation of faculty and students in the selection of the President.

3.2.5.8. The University Council shall develop procedures acceptable to the President for the participation of faculty and students in the selection of administrators of University level units which determine policies significantly affecting the academic programs of the University.

3.2.5.8.1. These administrative positions are the Provost, the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, the Vice President for Student Affairs and Services, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, the Dean of The Graduate School, the Dean of International Studies and Programs, the Senior Associate Provost, the Director of Libraries, and the Dean of the Honors College.

3.2.5.9. Except for the Board of Trustees, the University Council shall be the final authority with regard to the interpretation of these Bylaws (4.3.4.).

3.2.5.10. The University Council may propose, by majority vote, changes in these Bylaws (8.3.).

3.2.5.11. The University Council shall act on amendments to these Bylaws. Proposed amendments can originate from the University Council itself, from the Faculty Senate, or from University-Level Standing Committees through referral to the University Committee on Academic Governance.

3.2.6. University-level Standing Committees Reporting to University Council

3.2.6.1. University-level Standing Committees which deal predominantly with issues other than the curriculum and faculty life (e.g., tenure and promotion, salary, benefits) report to University Council. Such Committees include the University Committee on Student Affairs, the University Committee on Undergraduate Education, the University Committee on Graduate Studies, and the University Committee on Academic Governance.

3.2.6.2. The Athletic Council reports to the University Council. The form and frequency of its reporting will be determined by The Steering Committee, but in no case will the frequency of reporting be less than once each academic year. The

Athletic Council, through its chairperson, will also respond within a reasonable time to questions asked by the University Council.

3.2.7. Procedures of the University Council

3.2.7.1. The President or, in the President's absence, the Provost, shall preside at meetings of the University Council. The Secretary for Academic Governance shall be Secretary of the University Council and shall serve as a non-voting ex officio member of the University Council.

3.2.7.2. The University Council shall normally meet at least once each month during the academic year. The President or The Steering Committee may also call a special meeting of the University Council. The Steering Committee may cancel a University Council meeting if there are no agenda items to be considered. The Steering Committee shall prepare the agenda for each University Council meeting. Each meeting agenda will include an item enabling new business to be introduced from the floor. The agenda will be publicly available and circulated at least one week prior to the meeting to which it relates. The meetings of the University Council shall be open. Observers shall be seated separately.

3.2.7.3. A quorum for conducting the business of the University Council is 50% plus one.

3.2.7.4. On all recommendations concerning major academic policies, a University-level Standing Committee report, or a brief summary thereof compiled by the Committee chairperson, shall be made publicly available at the time it is submitted to the University Council.

3.2.7.5. The Faculty Senate, the Appointed Council (3.2.1.1.2.), ASMSU, or COGS may, by a majority vote of those present and voting, refer matters to the University Council. Such recommendations shall be placed on the agenda of the University Council by The Steering Committee.

3.2.7.6. The University Council shall establish its own rules and procedures. The Faculty Senate, ASMSU, and COGS shall keep minutes of their meetings, which shall be distributed to all members of the University Council and to all academic unit offices. Individual faculty may receive copies of such minutes on a regular basis upon written request to the Secretary for Academic Governance.