



Frequently Asked Election Questions

What is the University Committee on Academic Governance?

The University Committee on Academic Governance is responsible for reviewing, interpreting, and recommending amendments to the *Bylaws for Academic Governance*. The committee's decisions are subject to review by the University Council and the Board of Trustees. UCAG also reviews college bylaws for consistency with the *Bylaws for Academic Governance*. Every college's bylaws are reviewed at least once every five years.

Additionally, UCAG conducts a continuing review of best practices for dean reviews, reviews unit appeals involving cases between units, and provides helps coordinate the membership of various other academic governance bodies.

What are the time obligations like?

UCAG meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 3:15-5:00 p.m. Meetings are held every month between September and April (except for December).

What is the length of the term?

Terms for candidates elected in the Spring Semester 2021 elections will begin on August 16, 2021 and end on August 16, 2024.

Who is eligible to vote in the election?

Per Section 1.1.2.1. of the Bylaws for Academic Governance, "The voting faculty in the election of University-level councils and committees shall be all regular faculty, health professions faculty, and FRIB/NSCL faculty. Voting faculty also includes full-time fixed-term faculty who have served at least three consecutive years and full-time academic specialists who have served at least three consecutive years. Voting faculty must be engaged in academic activities of the University." The term "regular faculty" means those appointed under the rules of tenure and holding the rank of professor, associate professor, or assistant professor, as well as all persons appointed as librarians. Furthermore, per Section 1.1.2.1.1., "Full-time shall be defined as a workload equal to or greater than a 0.9 full-time equivalent."

Who is eligible to be elected?

The following types of people are eligible to be elected if they 1) hold faculty status in the college electing them and 2) are engaged in academic activities of the university:

1. Regular faculty members (1.1.2.4.)
2. Health professions faculty members (1.1.2.4.)
3. FRIB/NSCL faculty members (1.1.2.4.)
4. Full-time fixed-term faculty members who have served at least three consecutive years (1.1.2.5.)
5. Full-time specialists who have served at least three consecutive years (1.1.2.5.)
6. Full-time specialists who have served fewer than three consecutive years, if provided for in the college bylaws

Furthermore, to be elected to UCAG, a person must have previously served on at least one of the following academic governance bodies at Michigan State University:

1. Faculty Senate
2. University Committee on Academic Governance
3. University Committee on Curriculum
4. University Committee on Faculty Affairs
5. University Committee on Faculty Tenure
6. University Committee on Graduate Studies
7. University Committee on Student Affairs
8. University Committee on Undergraduate Education