

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

September 9, 2021

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The University Committee on Academic Governance  
**FROM:** Tyler Silvestri  
*Secretary for Academic Governance*  
**SUBJECT:** Process for Filling At-Large Member Vacancy

Among the members of the Steering Committee are five faculty/academic staff elected at-large by the voting-eligible faculty and academic staff.<sup>1</sup> The University Committee on Academic Governance nominates two people for each vacancy.<sup>2</sup> The chairperson and vice chairperson of the Faculty Senate and the Steering Committee are elected by the Faculty Senate from among the five at-large members.<sup>3</sup>

On August 2, 2021, Dr. Jennifer Johnson, the 2020–2021 Faculty Senate/Steering Committee chairperson and 2021–2022 chairperson-elect, announced she would resign as chairperson and at-large member of the Steering Committee effective August 15. Dr. Johnson’s term as an at-large member was set to expire on August 15, 2022.

Dr. Johnson’s departure leaves the Steering Committee with only four at-large members. The faculty members of UCAG are responsible for nominating one person to fill that vacancy, and Faculty Senate decides whether to confirm that person’s appointment.<sup>4</sup>

UCAG is not required to nominate someone the committee has previously nominated. However, for the committee’s convenience and in the event that the committee wishes to do so, I have attached the applications of the three 2020–2021 candidates who were not elected. Mr. Nicolas Gisholt and Dr. Jack Lipton tied for fourth place, and Dr. d’Ann de Simone took sixth place.

If the committee chooses to nominate one of those three, I will reach out and ask whether they are interested. If the committee wants to nominate someone else, I will send a call for nominations to all eligible faculty and academic staff.

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<sup>1</sup> See Bylaws for Academic Governance (as amended April 16, 2021), 3.4.1.1., 3.4.1.2.2.

<sup>2</sup> See id. at 3.4.1.2.2.

<sup>3</sup> See id. at 3.2.2.1.

<sup>4</sup> See id. at 3.4.1.2.3.



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