

University Committee on Academic Governance

Minutes

September 9, 2021



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Present: R. Bell, K. Dontje, D. Ewoldsen, G. Francsics, M. Sortman (for J. Gaboury), K. Greenwalt, T. Grotjohn, J. Lipton, R. Lucas, H. Ostrovski, D. Rivera, T. Silvestri, D. Stroupe, J. Swada, A. Tickner, D. Troutman, S. Vickery

Absent: T. Burghardt, M. Kuykendall, D. Miner, D. Rehberger, L. Sordillo-Gandy

A regular meeting of the University Committee on Academic Governance was held on September 9, 2021 at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom. 2020–2021 Chairperson Amanda Tickner presided until the new chairperson was elected. The agenda was approved as distributed. The draft minutes of the April 15, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

Tickner and Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri gave remarks.

The members of the committee introduced themselves to one another.

Tickner nominated Jack Lipton, 2020–2021 UCAG vice chairperson, to serve as chairperson for the 2021–2022 term. There were no other nominations. The committee elected Lipton chairperson.

Robert Bell nominated himself to serve as vice chairperson for the 2021–2022 academic year. There were no other nominations that were not eventually withdrawn. The committee elected Bell vice chairperson.

The secretary, the chairperson, and Tickner presented on the general structure, function, and role of UCAG.

The secretary presented on the status of UCAG's college bylaw reviews from the previous year. Following discussion, the committee agreed by consent that the following course of action be taken: 1) The secretary will send the bylaw review Qualtrics form to those who have not yet completed their reviews, 2) the secretary will compile a report for each pair of reviewers identifying any discrepancies between the pair's two reviews of a given college's bylaws, 3) the reviewing pairs will resolve any discrepancies and send them to the secretary, 4) the secretary will create a report outlining any identified conflicts between the college bylaws and the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* for each college, and 5) the full UCAG will review the reports at one or both of the next two UCAG meetings, after which approved reports will be sent to the colleges.

The secretary presented a referral from the Steering Committee asking UCAG to consider changing the process by which the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Steering Committee/Faculty Senate are elected. The chairperson moved to form a subcommittee made up of three UCAG members and two past Steering Committee/Faculty Senate chairpersons to consider the issue, with the selection of UCAG members to serve on the subcommittee to be addressed after the secretary solicits volunteers by email. The motion was adopted following debate.

The chairperson led the committee in a discussion regarding the process for filling the at-large member of the Steering Committee vacancy created by the resignation of Jennifer Johnson. The committee agreed by consent to instruct the secretary to ask

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the two¹ at-large member nominees who were not elected in the 2020–2021 election whether they were interested in serving the rest of the term that will expire on August 15, 2022. In the event that only one of the two is interested, the committee would nominate that person. If both are interested, the committee will debate which to nominate at the next UCAG meeting. If neither is interested, the secretary will inquire as to the interest of the 2020–2021 applicants whom UCAG did not nominate and present the applications of those interested at the next UCAG meeting, at which time the committee will nominate one of them.

The secretary introduced the proposed Athletic Council procedures and amendments to the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* that were first submitted to UCAG two years earlier. The committee agreed by consent to review the proposal and take further action at the next UCAG meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Silvestri".

Tyler Silvestri
Secretary for Academic Governance

Approved: September 23, 2021

¹ Strictly speaking, there were three nominees who were not elected, but UCAG Chairperson Jack Lipton was one of them, and he indicated he was not interested in filling the vacancy at the meeting.