

University Committee on Academic Governance

Minutes

October 21, 2021



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Present: R. Bell, T. Burghardt, K. Dontje, D. Ewoldsen, G. Francsics, L. Graham, K. Greenwalt, T. Grotjohn, T. Jeitschko, J. Kovach J. Lipton, D. Rehberger, D. Rivera, K. Sunday, T. Silvestri, J. Swada, A. Tickner, S. Vickery

Absent: V. Delgado, M. Kuykendall, R. Lucas, H. Ostrovski, D. Troutman

A regular meeting of the University Committee on Academic Governance was held on October 21, 2021 at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom with Chairperson Jack Lipton presiding. The agenda was approved after amendment. The draft minutes of the October 7, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

The chairperson and Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri gave remarks.

The committee continued its review of the proposed Athletic Council procedures and agreed to review a draft letter to the Athletic Council—to be drafted by the secretary—at the next UCAG meeting.

Shawnee Vickery moved to nominate Holly Flynn and Dustin Petty to fill the vacancy on the University Committee on Student Affairs for the term ending in August 2023. The motion was adopted following debate.

The committee considered the process by which the All-University Awards Committee nominations would proceed. Following debate, the committee agreed by consent to the following: the secretary will reach out to the Office of the Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs to request a list of possible nominees who 1) are still living, 2) are still at the university, and 3) who have not had any disciplinary flags on their record. The secretary will also ask to clarify the term lengths for the current members of the committee and find out what vacancies need to be filled.

The committee considered the draft review report¹ for the bylaws of the College of Law. Vice Chairperson Robert Bell moved that the committee adopt the report. The motion was adopted following debate and amendment.

Following debate, the committee agreed by consent to consider the issue of whether the word “deans” in the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* includes acting deans at a future meeting.

The committee considered the draft review report for the bylaws of the College of Communication Arts and Science. David Ewoldsen moved that the committee adopt the report. The motion was adopted following debate and amendment.

¹ Approved reports are sent to the relevant college and are on file in the Office of Academic Governance. They are available to others upon request. A compilation of the reports for all colleges will be publicly available once all reviews are complete.

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Section 1.4.1. of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* reads, “Except as limited or prohibited in these *Bylaws*, ex-officio members of governance bodies—those who serve on the body by virtue of an office held—have both voice and vote.” Section 1.4.2. reads, in relevant part, “Except as limited or prohibited in these *Bylaws*, a designee may serve in the stead of a member of a governance body who is absent from a meeting.” Following debate, the committee agreed by consent to interpret the phrases “governance bodies” and “governance body” in sections 1.4.1. and 1.4.2., respectively, to refer only to bodies named in the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* themselves. The import of this interpretation is that 1) college bylaws can have non-voting ex-officio members on any college committee other than the college advisory committee, and 2) college committees other than the CAC need not necessarily allow for designees in the way that section 1.4.2. provides and are not required to allow designees at all.

The committee considered the draft review report for the bylaws of the College of Human Medicine. Following debate and amendment, the committee agreed by consent to adopt the report.

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

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

Tyler Silvestri
Secretary for Academic Governance

Approved: November 18, 2021