

**University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
2017-18 Annual Report**

Members:

Name	Rank	Department
Jennifer Doering	Assoc	College of Nursing
Mark Schwartz	Prof	Geography
Kristian O'Connor ¹ , Chair	Assoc	Kinesiology
Marcia Parsons	Prof	Dance
Swarnjit Arora ²	Prof	Economics
Kathleen Dolan ³	Prof	Political Science
Enrique Figueroa**	Assoc	Urban Planning
Robert Schwartz	Prof	Philosophy

** President pro tem of the Senate

1 Repl J. Alinder (2019-E)

2 Retired December 2017

3 Repl S. Arora (2018-E)

Charter:

Functions/ Responsibilities:

University Committee Composition and Function

A3.9 University Committee

(1) Membership

- a) Seven tenured faculty members as follows: six elected faculty members and the President pro tem of the Senate. No more than three of the members shall be from a single school, college, or equivalent academic unit. No more than one member shall be from a single department in a departmentalized school or college. All UC members are automatically Faculty Senators.

For all regular elections of members to the University Committee, a primary election shall be held. The final election ballot will contain twice as many nominees as there are individuals to be elected, such nominees to be chosen in descending order from the one who received the greatest number of votes in the primary election. The provisions above concerning membership distribution shall be honored.

The Committee annually elects a chairperson-elect from those having at least one more year to serve as a Committee member. The chairperson-elect serves as chairperson the year following his/her election.

- b) Vacancies in the University Committee membership are to be filled as soon thereafter as possible. If the vacancy cannot be filled within the regular annual committee elections process as specified in 6.24(1&6), then a special election will be held through preparation of a special slate of nominees by the Nominations Committee and permitting nominations from the university faculty followed by a mail ballot. If the special slate has more than two nominees for an available position, a final election will be conducted as specified in A3.9(1)(a). The membership that results from the filling of this vacancy will follow the membership composition restrictions of the University Committee with respect to school/college and departmental affiliation as cited in A3.9 (1) (a).

(Document 2477, 5/17/05; UWM Administration, 08/16/05)

(Document 2560, 2/15/07; UWM Administration, 2/21/07)

(Document 2659, 5/14/09; UWM Administration, 4/6/09)

(Document 2716, 4/15/10; UWM Administration, 4/20/10)

(2) Functions

- a) Serves as the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, and in that capacity performs those functions which may be delegated to it by the Senate. Takes action representing faculty interests and prerogatives within the jurisdiction of the Senate when the Senate is not in session. Such actions are reported to the Senate at its next regular meeting for ratification or other appropriate action.
- b) Examines any actions taken respecting the UWM campus by the Board of Regents, the various faculties or faculty committees, or by other bodies or individuals related to the university faculty, and makes recommendation as appropriate.
- c) On its own initiative, studies educational policy matters which are within the jurisdiction of the university faculty and makes recommendations to the Faculty thereon. To the extent feasible, the committee performs this function in consultation with other appropriate faculty committees.
- d) On its own initiative, or upon request, advises the Administration on the implementation of faculty action.
- e) Consults with appropriate administrative officers at campus level or above on budget matters and reports thereon to the faculty.
- f) In consultation with the Rules Committee prepares the agenda for committee of the whole discussions concerning matters of general interest to the university faculty.
- g) Makes an annual report at the Faculty Senate's first regular meeting of the academic year, and regularly submits to the Secretary of the University its minutes on all matters except those matters considered in closed session as permitted by 19.85, Wis. Stats.
- h) Advises the Chancellor on the membership on any campus search and screen committee which involves the faculty in making nominations for appointments to major university administrative positions as specified in 6.05, and represents the faculty on any system wide search and screen procedures.

- i) Advises the faculty and the administration on those questions concerning the operation of faculty governance which are within the jurisdiction of the university faculty.
- j) Receives grievances and complaints by or against members of the faculty and refers these grievances or complaints to the appropriate faculty standing committee.
- k) Receive notification within five working days from administrators when they, after conducting preliminary investigations, have grievances or complaints against faculty member(s) that may lead to discipline.

(Document 1016, 3/17/77; UWM Administration approval, 3/30/77)

(Document 1076, 3/21/76; UWM Administration approval, 3/28/78)

(Editorially revised, 5/13/92)

(Document 2424, 4/15/04; UWM Administration approval, 4/26/04)

(Document 2477, 3/17/05; UWM Administration, 08/16/05)

Meetings:

1. The UC met regularly with Provost Britz (about every other week) and Chancellor Mone (approximately once a month) during the year in order to keep informed and provide input on important campus issues.
2. In early Fall 2017, the UC reviewed UW System draft policies regarding administrative hiring and free speech. Regarding the free speech policy, the UC provided feedback that the penalties for repeat offenders are too prescriptive. Regarding the hiring policies, the UC presented a Faculty Senate Resolution stating that the limit of the search & screen committee to ten members with half being regents does not adequately represent local stakeholders.
3. The UC presented the UWM Student Representative Missed Class policy at the October Senate meeting, which was passed.
4. The UC was extensively involved in the planning process for the UW System restructuring. The UC proposed developing a new college and new Division for the new programs and faculty, and UC Chair O'Connor led a task force that wrote the proposal for the new College of General Studies. The UC's efforts to address several governance-related merger issues continued through the spring.
5. The UC sponsored a faculty Senate resolution regarding the termination of DACA in support of vulnerable students.
6. In Fall 2017, the UC reviewed proposed changes to S-47 (Discriminatory Conduct and Consensual Relationships Policy). The UC discovered inconsistencies between the current policy and current practice, which prompted suggested changes to the proposed draft. There were also several proposed changes at the Senate as well as during meetings of the UC with the Director of EDS and campus legal. The result was a document with a substantially clearer set of procedures for handling complaints.
7. In response to news reports regarding UW system President Cross's email communications with legislators, the UWM chapter of the AAUP and co-sponsored a Faculty Senate Resolution. The resolution that was passed at the February Senate meeting called on President Cross to protect and respect shared governance.
8. Throughout the year, the UC monitored and provided advice regarding the campus budget situation as well as the campus enrollment. The UC provided feedback and made recommendations as appropriate regarding the campus activities on these matters.

9. With the implementation of the new Post-tenure review policy that was passed in spring 2017, questions arose regarding the role of the Divisional committees in the process. The UC met with representatives from the Divisional committees as well as previous UC chair John Reisel to discuss any issues of ambiguity in Faculty Document 3083. After discussion, it was determined that no changes were required for the procedures, and the process was clarified. In this process, the UC recognized that UWM P&P had not been modified to include language identifying PTR as a Divisional Committee task. UWM P&P 3.14 was amended at the May Senate Meeting to reflect this change.

10. Academic Staff voting rights at the College level were discussed multiple times during the year in response to requests made to the Senate for approval from the College of Health Sciences. The primary issue concerned the ability for non-departmentally based, non-teaching academic staff to have voting rights in the college. A primary result of these discussions was to ask the requesting college to provide a transmittal that lists the individual's job title, academic department, and highest degree.

11. The UC participated on the three dean Search & Screen Committees, as well as supported the identification of non-UC faculty members to serve on these committees. The UC also made recommendations for faculty appointments to other campus Search & Screen committees, as well as faculty standing committees.

12. In November, the UC met with members of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editorial board and MJS journalists with the purpose of continuing an ongoing dialogue. The discussion proved useful in that it helped to highlight the benefits to Milwaukee of UWM and also to directly communicate the challenges facing UWM to the city's primary newspaper.

13. The UC worked with the Administration and the EBC on the final details of the pay plan, including the distribution of the merit pool between the Executive Committees, Deans, Provost, and Chancellor

14. The UC met with the Chair of the GFC, who provided an update on the planned changes to the graduate committee structures. The UC was supportive of the proposed changes.

15. The UC received an overview of the new budget model from Robin van Harpen and Drew Knab. The committee asked to remain informed on the progress of the new model.

16. The UC also performed its usual function of transmitting faculty complaints to the FAGC or FRRC as appropriate, and monitoring the progress of the cases.

17. The UC elected Kris O'Connor to be chair for the 2018-19 year.