

**University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
2020-21 Annual Report**

Members:

Name	Rank	Department
Bettina Arnold	Prof	Anthropology
Kathleen Dolan, Chair	Prof	Political Science
Devendra Misra	Prof	Biomedical Engineering
John Reisel	Prof	Mechanical Engineering
Nigel Rothfels	Assoc	History
Julia Snethen	Prof	Nursing
Lingqian Hu**	Prof	Urban Planning

** President pro tem of the Senate

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. We also met monthly with Kyla Esguerra, chair of the Academic Staff Committee, to keep informed and provide input on issues shared by faculty and instructional academic staff.
2. Throughout the year, the UC monitored and provided advice regarding the campus Covid-19 policies, the 2030 Implementation Team recommendations, and campus enrollment. The UC provided feedback and made recommendations as appropriate regarding the campus activities on these matters.
3. The UC invited Interim UW System President Thompson to attend a faculty Senate meeting to engage in dialog with UWM faculty. He accepted the invitation and attended in March 2021.
4. The UC engaged in several conversations with administration and faculty regarding campus disciplinary procedures to both ensure that policy is being followed and that the policies are adequate.
5. The UC worked closely with Provost Britz and Chancellor Mone on a range of Covid-19 planning issues around the return to campus in Fall 2021.
6. The UC had discussions with the chancellor and provost about the issue of voting rights for academic staff.
7. The UC invited Vice Chancellor Robin Van Harpen and Interim Chief of Police Brian Switala to discuss the planned search for a new permanent Chief of Police and campus issues regarding policing.
8. The UC conducted a review of the faculty governance committees, surveying committee chairs and reviewing committee charters and annual reports to determine whether changes to the committee system were needed.
9. UC members met with members of the FACG and FRRC to discuss potential changes in committee notification procedures.

10. The UC met with Athletic Director Amanda Braun and a group of faculty from the Athletics Board to discuss ways in which Athletics could be better integrated into the student experience and into the campus culture more broadly.
11. 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.
12. The UC performed its usual function of appointing faculty to open positions on governance committees and in recommending people to be nominated for appointment to these committees.
13. The UC elected Nigel Rothfels to be chair for the 2021-22 year.

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