

**University Faculty Council Meeting MINUTES**  
**August 18, 2014**

I. The meeting was called to order shortly after 10:00.

Present: Jodie Hayob (Chair, CAS), Anand Rao (Vice Chair, CAS), Gail Brooks (COB), Steve Greenlaw (CAS), Debra Schleaf (CAS), Tamie Pratt-Fartro (COE), Teresa Coffman (COE), Greg Stull (CAS), Margaret Ray (CAS), Jonathan Levin (Provost), Kristin Marsh (Visiting, CAS), Smita Jain Oxford (Secretary, COB)

Missing: Marcel Rotter (CAS)

II. The University Faculty Council approved unanimously three motions to modify its membership (these changes must be approved by the majority of the faculty governing bodies in each college – cf. Faculty Handbook, 2.3.3 – UFC Authority).

**Motion 1** (consisting of two parts): to amend the language of the Faculty Handbook as follows – deletions shown in strikethrough text:

**2.3.4 Membership and Organization of the UFC** The UFC will be comprised of the following members: two (2) faculty elected from the College of Education; two (2) faculty elected from the College of Business; two (2) faculty elected from the College of Arts and Sciences; and four (4) faculty elected from the instructional faculty-at-large. In addition, the President, the Provost, ~~the deans of all three colleges~~, and one student representative selected by the Student Government Association serve as nonvoting ex officio members.

**L.5 Order of Business** The agenda of University Faculty Council meetings will be set by the Chairperson, with assistance provided by the Secretary. The agenda will be distributed to all members of the Council and all teaching faculty at least two working days before a scheduled meeting. The Chairperson may include additional items on the agenda after it has been distributed. The order of business in regularly scheduled meetings of the UFC will include the following: Call to order; reading of and approval of Minutes; ~~Reports from President, Provost, Deans~~; Chair's report (e.g., from meetings w/ admin, other committees, groups); reports from University-level standing committees; Reports from UFC subcommittees/study groups; other unfinished business; other new business; announcements; adjournment. Written reports are preferred.

**Rationale:** As the UFC is a university-level committee, it is not necessary for the college Deans to serve as ex officio members (cf. 2.3.1 copied below, which outlines the purpose of the UFC). Administrative reports to the UFC duplicate information presented to other groups. These changes will expedite the conduct of UFC business (by removing oral reports that can be lengthy at times), decrease the duplication of information (e.g., the Deans' reports are more appropriately disseminated to the instructional faculty through the academic departments), and strengthen faculty unity across the colleges. Attendance at meetings of the UFC is open to all members of

the University community (cf. 2.3.6 – UFC Meetings); the UFC encourages participation from all university constituencies and values insight and feedback from all levels.

**2.3.1 Purpose of the University Faculty Council (UFC)** The UFC serves to promote effective communication and coordination among the different College governing bodies at UMW. It also serves to recognize and address matters of common concern to all instructional faculty, matters that transcend the issues of a specific College, matters affecting general faculty welfare, and curriculum matters affecting all colleges. The UFC also serves to promote effective coordination and interaction by providing a formal means of regular communication between the University Faculty, the President and the Provost, and the Board of Visitors.

**Motion 2:** to amend the Faculty Handbook language as follows – additions in italics:

**2.3.5.1 UFC Chair** *The Chair of the UFC should be a tenured member of the instructional faculty.* Responsible for preparing the agenda for UFC meetings and presiding over the meetings. The Chair will also represent the faculty at meetings of the Board of Visitors.

**2.3.5.2 UFC Vice Chair** *The Vice-Chair of the UFC should be a tenured member of the instructional faculty, who (except in extenuating circumstances) will serve as Chair the following academic year.* Responsible for serving as Chair in the absence of the Chair.

**Rationale:** Current members of the UFC are in agreement that the Chair of the UFC should be a tenured member of the instructional faculty, with the protections of academic freedom. Additionally, as the Vice-Chair essentially ‘shadows’ the Chair, having the Vice-Chair serve as Chair in the following academic year will provide better continuity within the UFC from year to year, improve oversight of university committee actions, and facilitate the flow of information within the university community.

III. The group discussed the current draft of the Proposal to Reform University Faculty Governance:

*The UFS will be comprised of the following members: three (3) faculty elected from the College of Education; three (3) faculty elected from the College of Business, nine faculty members elected from the College of Arts and Sciences as follows: three (3) faculty elected from the natural sciences (biology, chemistry, computer science, Earth/environmental sciences, mathematics, or physics), three (3) faculty elected from the social sciences (economics, geography, history/American studies, historic preservation, political science, psychology, or sociology/anthropology), and three (3) faculty elected from the humanities (art/art history, classics/philosophy/religion, English/linguistics/communication, modern languages, music, or theater/dance); and three (3) faculty elected from the instructional faculty-at-large, for a total of eighteen UFS members. In addition, the President, the Provost, the deans of all three colleges, and one student representative selected by the Student Government Association serve as nonvoting ex officio members.*

This current Faculty Handbook language reads:

*The UFC will be comprised of the following members: two (2) faculty elected from the College of Education; two (2) faculty elected from the College of Business; two (2) faculty elected from the College of Arts and Sciences; and four (4) faculty elected from the instructional faculty-at-large. In addition, the President, the Provost, the deans of all three colleges, and one student representative selected by the Student Government Association serve as nonvoting ex officio members.*

It was decided that the Colleges of Business and Education would discuss this proposal further at their all-college meetings the following day, and that the issue would be reconsidered at the UFC's September meeting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the UFC is on Tuesday, September 16, at 3:30pm, in DuPont 324. The UFC will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, September 9 to discuss feedback from faculty in each college regarding governance and a proposed University Faculty Senate.