



Anand Rao, UFC Chair
Report to the UFC
September 25, 2019

This has been a busier start of the semester for faculty governance than I think we have seen in previous years, largely driven by discussions about General Education implementation. Included in this report are my notes about several meetings and actions undertaken in the last month.

President's Leadership Council meeting – Sept 4, 2019

The marketing team that the university has contracted to assist with the university's rebranding was on campus and was introduced to the council. They will have representatives on campus at various times over the coming months to work on our rebranding.

The council heard a presentation about community engagement from Dr. Leslie Martin, in advance of the presentation scheduled for the Sept 13th BOV meeting.

The council engaged in a lengthy discussion about setting the vision for the university, led by President Paino. This was a largely unstructured session that allowed for open discussion about how the university might develop a shared understanding of our vision and future.

The next President's Leadership Council meeting will be held on November 6, 2019, 1-3pm in Lee Hall 412.

Board of Visitors meeting – September 13, 2019

I attended the majority of the BOV meeting on Friday, September 13th, and would recommend that all faculty review the BOV agenda, paying special attention to the included materials (<https://go.boarddocs.com/va/umw/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BF27DX192F39>). Here are comments on a few of the items of particular interest. I would like to note just how impressive our colleagues' presentations to the Board were on the 13th:

Reports from the President and Provost – these materials are included under their entries on the agenda.

Community and Civic Engagement – Leslie Martin, Marion Sanford, and Sarah Dewees, presented the Board with information about the Center for Community Engagement, and some of the past and current collaborations that the Center and the JFMC are working on. They also referenced the [UMW Civic Action Plan](#), and answered questions from the Board about the plan and future plans for the center.

Campus Environment Committee Update – Michael Spencer provided an update on the committee’s work, and outlined the planned timeline for work this semester, culminating in a final report to be submitted to President Paino on November 6th. In the interim, a draft proposal will be made available in early October, with open fora scheduled for late October.

[James Farmer Legacy Council](#) – Juliette Landphair discussed the work of the legacy council to plan events over the coming year to commemorate the 100th anniversary of James Farmer’s birth, and the 30th anniversary of the James Farmer Multicultural Center.

Vision for Fine Arts – department chairs Carole Garmon, Gregg Stull, and Brooks Kuykendall, engaged in a discussion with the Board about the important roles that the arts play in our students’ education, the remarkable work that is being done by our students, and the poor state of instructional space for the arts.

Faculty Representative’s Report – I supplemented my written report with an update on the UFC’s special meeting to discuss the General Education student learning outcomes, course approval plans for General Education courses, and plans for faculty governance to review the Faculty Handbook.

Campus Environment Focus Group – September 17, 2019

My thanks to the many members of UFC who participated in this focus group with Michael Spencer and Erin Devlin of the Campus Environment Committee. As noted above, the committee anticipates releasing a draft report in early October, and will hold open fora later in October for discussion of the report. A final report will be submitted to President Paino in early November.

New Faculty Orientation Session on Faculty Governance – September 18, 2019

My thanks to Associate Provost Tim O’Donnell for inviting me to speak with our new faculty colleagues about faculty governance. The session outlined our faculty governance structure, what is meant by shared governance, as well as opportunities for new faculty to participate in faculty governance.

Work with Faculty Governance

I worked with the co-chairs of the UFOC to compile a list of committee officers, and then provided web editing access for those officers. I produced a quick guide for how to access and edit committee web pages, and provided committee officers with some suggestions for best practices and deadlines for posting committee materials.

I created a UMW Faculty Governance Calendar that is now posted on the UFC website. The goal is to increase awareness about the work done by faculty committees, and to provide information for members of the UMW community who would like to attend a meeting. Most scheduled committee meetings have been posted for the fall, and the calendar can be followed online using this link:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar?cid=aGVmbTlu2trYTI3OWltdXFnb2k0NW5qbGtAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xILmNvbQ>.