

UMW Board of Visitors
Faculty Representative Report
Rachel Graefe-Anderson, UFC Chair

November 4, 2022

The University Faculty Council (UFC) held meetings on September 21 and October 19. At the September meeting, UFC members approved meeting minutes from August 16 and August 19, various curriculum proposals (which can be reviewed through the UFC agenda, to which a link is provided below). Sandrine Sutphin and Michael Middleton from the Office of Student Activities and Engagement gave a presentation on the new (and still developing) co-curricular transcript. Kimberly Young and Jennifer Walker gave an update on the QEP efforts for SACSCOC reaccreditation, including revisions based on previous feedback as well as proposing two learning outcomes for the QEP. UFC members provided their comments and feedback for continued revisions. Kimberly and Jennifer offered to create a mechanism for asynchronous additional faculty feedback to incorporate for the next update.

The UFC also continued to discuss faculty workload concerns and the potential for streamlining faculty governance. Included in the discussion was how much of this is appropriately done at the College-level versus at the University-level. Each College has its own faculty governance system internally and some streamlining could also be done internally. Faculty were also reminded that midterm evaluation submissions are now required and all will be asked to submit either “S” for satisfactory, “U” for unsatisfactory, or “N” for never attended.

For your information, please find the September meeting agenda and draft minutes linked here:

- [UFC Agenda September 21, 2022](#)
- [UFC Meeting Minutes September 21, 2022](#)

At the October meeting, minutes from the September meeting were approved as well as additional curricular proposals. Marcel Rotter gave an update on the Faculty Senate of Virginia and Chris Ryder was confirmed as a representative. Suzanne Sumner offered to serve in the Spring and Kristin Marsh offered to serve as a substitute if needed. Kimberly Young and Jennifer Walker presented another update on the QEP with revised learning outcomes after incorporating much feedback that occurred between the two meetings. Faculty discussed further and ultimately voted to approve two learning outcomes with additional revisions from the discussion. There was also substantive discussion regarding assessment of learning outcomes, though that need not be finalized prior to approving the learning outcomes themselves. The approved learning outcomes are as follows:

- Learning Outcome 1: Students will connect their liberal arts and sciences education with the ten core competencies and understand how they relate to life and career after Mary Washington.
- Learning Outcome 2: Students will communicate their experiences in a way that is relevant to their life and career after Mary Washington.

Regarding faculty governance, the University Faculty Affairs Committee (UFAC) had sent a motion to the UFC to consider elimination of the University Curriculum Committee. This was presented as one way to streamline some processes. UFC members discussed and tabled the matter until the University Faculty Organization Committee can consider and report back at the next meeting.

For your information, please find the October meeting agenda and draft minutes here:

- [UFC Agenda October 19, 2022](#)
- [UFC DRAFT Meeting Minutes October 19, 2022](#)

UFC executive committee members met with Provost O'Donnell on October 28 and reviewed a survey provided by the ad hoc committee on J-term and other alternative semesters. Charles Tate was present and is on this committee. UFC executive committee members provided feedback on the survey for Charles to take back to the committee. The UFC Chair joined the committee meeting on J-term. Slight modifications to the survey were agreed upon and Michael Benson (chair of the ad hoc committee) will send the updated survey to the UFC Chair to distribute to faculty members. The UFC will discuss the results of the survey at its November meeting.

The next scheduled UFC meeting is November 30, 2022.

I welcome questions on these and other topics of faculty governance concern. As UFC Chair, I am grateful for the open lines of communication that both the BOV and Administration work hard to maintain.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Graefe-Anderson, Associate Professor of Finance
Chair, University Faculty Council