

University Council Minutes
February 5, 2024
3:30 PM

Creativity and Innovation District Building Multipurpose Library (Room 104) and Zoom

Present: Tim Sands (presiding), Cyril Clarke, April Myers, Kim O'Rourke, Laurel Miner for Daniel Sui, James Bridgeforth for Frances Keene, Byan Garey, Rachel Holloway, Michael Gutter for Alan Grant, Daniel Givens, Debra Stoudt for Laura Belmonte, Paul Winistorfer, Lara Khansa for Saonee Sarker, Tsai Lu Liu, Lee Learman, Dwayne Edwards, Joe Merola, Robert Weiss, Evan Lavender-Smith, Janice Austin, Stephanie Trout, Jennifer Jones, LaTawnya Burleson, Callan Bartel, Kari Evans, Kiera Schneiderman, Shahed Sanuri, Lane Robertson for William Storey, Alex Efrid, Rachel Maizel, Yohan Sequeira, Riley DeHORITY, Emily Tirrell, Gary Long, Nicole Pitterson, Stuart Feigenbaum, Rodney Gaines, Renee LeClair, Serena Young, Amber Robinson, Sally Shupe, Melissa Faircloth, & Gennell Catman for Kelly Oaks

Absent with notice: Amy Sebring, Aimée Surprenant, Julia Ross, & Charles Lowery

Absent: Menah Pratt, Kevin Pitts, Tyler Walters, Paul Knox, Natalia Guerrero, Daniel Hindman, Virginia Buechner-Maxwell, Lujean Baab, John Gray Williams, & Shania Clinedinst

Guests: Ginny Pannabecker, Ranald Adams, Madeline Boudville, Lori Buchanan, Kim Daniloski, Carla Finkelstein, Dee Harris, Justin Lemkul, M L Logan, Xiaoyan Ma, Brandy Morse, Debbie Greer, Katie Moseby, Kat Nelson, Arianna Schuler Scott, Demetria Somervell, Diane Zahm, & Montasir Abbas

Dr. Sands called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of December 4, 2023

Dr. Sands noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

3. Commission Chair Reports

Dr. Sands asked the Commission chairs to present briefly their goals for the academic year.

1. Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs – Stephanie Trout, Chair
 - a. Professional Development Leave – Potential resolution.
 - b. Reviewing previous resolution on community service leave.
 - c. Review of any new items brought to the commission as they become available.
2. Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity – Melissa Faircloth, Chair
 - a. The commission continues to meet and work on several issues carried over from last semester.
 - Requests across campus for the disaggregation of data. The subcommittee addressing this issue has done ample research on this matter and now is in the stage of determining what tangible recommendations might be made given their findings.
 - b. The commission continues to check in on university caucuses to determine what kind of support they may need and what barriers impact their activity.
 - c. There is a working group starting to evaluate *principles of community* awards for this year.
 - d. Continue to work on filling vacant seats on University Council and on the University Curriculum Committee for General Education

3. Commission on Faculty Affairs – Justin Lemkul, Chair
 - a. Continue to work on clarifications to the Faculty Handbook regarding how clinical faculty are evaluated for promotion and tenure.
 - b. Revision to the Faculty Senate Constitution to update how senate seats are allocated (with explicit inclusion of research faculty in thematic institutes).
 - c. Will be presenting a resolution for the formation of a task force to study gaps in instructor salaries.
 - d. Will be discussing a resolution endorsing the responsible use of research metrics statement that was adopted by the Faculty Senate last spring.
4. Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs – Randal Adams, Chair
 - a. Focusing on the graduate and professional student experience to the extended campuses such as Roanoke and ARECs and discussing how to better serve these students.
 - b. Looking at developing internal policies for investigating graduate and professional student suicides.
5. Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies – Montasir Abbas, Chair
 - a. Identification and study of metrics that are under the purview of the Graduate School and that can contribute toward the Global Distinction initiative.
 - b. Looking into fellowships and funding that can contribute towards the Virginia Tech Advantage initiative.
 - c. Exploring issues related to creating a separate category of professional matters and online learning.
 - d. Identification of lessons learned in faculty advising.
 - e. Looking into student recruitment and admission for diversity, equity, and inclusion.
 - f. Looking into education and research challenges and opportunities related to Generative AI.
6. Commission on Outreach and International Affairs – Dave Close, Chair
 - a. Work collaboratively with the taskforce on the Global Strategic Plan.
 - b. Identify and promote additional scholarships or funding opportunities for student study abroad opportunities.
 - c. Create an international alumni database for the purpose of securing financial support for international experiences.
7. Commission on Research – Carla Finkelstein, Chair
 - a. Resolution on the revision of Human Subjects Research Policy (13040)
 - b. Representation of Research Faculty in Faculty Senate (will discuss with the Commission on Faculty Affairs)
 - c. Resolution on the revision to and merging of the two policies that govern centers at Virginia Tech
 - d. Feedback on Promotion and Tenure documents containing new metrics
 - e. Animal research policy
 - f. Research faculty structure
8. Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs – Callan Bartel, Chair
 - a. Plan to invite guest speakers from
 - The Human Resources Benefits Department
 - The Talent Development team
 - Office of Inclusion and Diversity
 - b. Discussion on new leave changes for staff members, which is an important topic of great interest to staff.
 - c. Updates on current professional development opportunities for staff.
 - d. Updates on inclusion and diversity initiatives.

9. Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs – Shahed Sanuri, Chair
 - a. Revise the Undergraduate Student Senate’s Governing Documents.
 - b. Promote the overall health and safety of all undergraduate students at Virginia Tech.
 - c. Recommend policy that supports InclusiveVT institutional goals.
 - d. Improve the undergraduate student experience.
 - e. A working group of members of the Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs will bring forth problems and discuss potential solutions within their constituencies and within the undergraduate student body.

10. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies – Diane Zahm, Chair
 - a. The commission has two basic goals for the spring semester:
 - Focus on student success.
 - Review one or more academic policies and propose revisions to improve equity and provide greater focus on student success.
 - b. The commission is focusing on two policies:
 - Policy 6305 – Satisfactory Academic Progress for Bachelor’s Degree. The Academic Policies Committee is studying issues with this policy and will bring a proposal to the next commission meeting.
 - Policy 6311 Course Withdrawal (W Grade) Policy. Continued discussion on this policy because the commission needs to understand how any changes to the timing of a withdrawal decision may impact others in areas such as academic standing, probation, and suspension.

4. Unfinished Business

Commission on Faculty Affairs

Resolution CFA 2023-24A

Resolution to Revise the Description of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees in the Faculty Senate Constitution

Justin Lemkul presented the resolution for second reading. A motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission on Research

Resolution COR 2023-24A

Resolution to Revise Policy 13040: Virginia Tech Human Subjects Research Policy

Carla Finkelstein presented the resolution for second reading. A motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission on Research

Resolution COR 2023-24B

Resolution to Revise Policies 13005 and 3020 on Center and Institute Establishment, Oversight, and Governance and Financial and Administrative Procedures

Carla Finkelstein presented the resolution for second reading. A motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs

Resolution CSPA 2022-23A

Resolution to Add a Statement of Support for Participation in Shared Governance and Professional Development to Staff Job Postings.

Callan Bartel presented the resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

5. New Business

University Council
Resolution UC 2023-24A
Resolution to Revise the University Council Bylaws

Cyril Clarke presented the resolution for first reading. The new system of shared governance was approved in 2022 and included several new elements such as an expanded opportunity for engagement across the institution. One of the changes had to do with the creation of a University Council Cabinet. The cabinet has representation across the constituent representative bodies and is co-chaired by the Executive Vice President and Provost and the Faculty Senate President. The overall goal of the cabinet is to facilitate and assist with streamlining the process of shared governance. The cabinet does not vote in terms of making a decision on any resolution, but it does have the opportunity to indicate whether or not a resolution falls within a commission's purview, but even in that case, that is something that is subject ultimately to the authority of University Council. When the new system of shared governance was established, it was recognized that this was a first attempt at a comprehensive approach and that as the new system is implemented, issues will be encountered that will need to be addressed. This resolution to amend the bylaws addresses some of those issues. One particular issue that came up initially is that the engagement and involvement of the University Council Cabinet was in fact delaying the process of review of resolutions. Other proposed revisions to the bylaws include simple housekeeping edits and changes to improve the efficiency of the system of shared governance.

At the conclusion of Cyril Clarke's introductory comments, a request was made by another member to include two supplemental documents that are being discussed in the University Council Cabinet in order to have a full discussion of the broader plan to change the constitution. In response, it was stated that Resolution UC 2023-24A that is before University Council for first reading today only addresses changes for the bylaws, and the constitution changes will be discussed at a later time since changes to the constitution are still in preliminary discussions in the cabinet. A concern was raised about a proposed change to Article III, Section 3 of the bylaws. The proposed change would eliminate the need to provide a draft resolution to the cabinet for review in order to determine if a resolution is within a commission's charge; instead, a one-page resolution proposal describing the concept for a resolution would be provided to the cabinet. It was then explained that the intention of this change is to streamline the process and save time since a resolution will not have to be written in advance for a commission to gain approval to move forward with a resolution. This will eliminate unnecessary work to draft a resolution that is not considered to fall within a commission charge by the cabinet. However, if the commission wishes to submit a full draft resolution to the cabinet along with the resolution proposal for determination as to whether it fits with a commission's charge, that would be permissible.

The chair agreed to allow the request to submit two supplemental documents, and they are attached to these minutes.

Chair's Note: These two documents are deliberative drafts currently or formerly under consideration by the University Council Cabinet, not the University Council. These documents (as submitted by cabinet member Rachel Maizel) represent the start of the shared governance process for revisions to the University Council Constitution that begins with discussion documents being deliberated within the cabinet and a formal resolution being drafted and approved by the cabinet before the resolution is shared with the senates for review and comment and then presented to the University Council for first reading. We are including these documents in the minutes at the request of Rachel Maizel. It is understood that these documents may evolve considerably before they reach the University Council for consideration. We hope that the transmission of deliberative documents does not suppress future open dialogue among cabinet members but understand that these documents were already leaked on social media.

6. Announcement of Approval and Posting of UC Cabinet, Commission, and Committee Minutes

These minutes have been voted on electronically and will be posted on the University web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>). Note that the purpose of voting on minutes of the University Council Cabinet, Commissions, and Committees reporting to University Council Cabinet is to accept them for filing. University Council Bylaws require that policy items be brought forward in resolution form for University Council action.

- University Council Cabinet
November 27, 2023
- Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs
November 15, 2023
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
November 16, 2023
December 7, 2023
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
November 13, 2023
November 27, 2023
- Athletics Committee
October 12, 2023
December 14, 2023
- Budgeting and Planning Committee
November 17, 2023

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

University Council Voting Results
February 5, 2024

First name	Last name	Do you approve Resolution CFA 2023-24A?	Do you approve Resolution COR 2023-24A?	Do you approve Resolution COR 2023-24B?	Do you approve Resolution CSPA 2023-24A?
Janice	Austin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Callan	Bartel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
James	Bridgeforth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Virginia	Buechner-Maxwell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LaTawnya	Burleson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DAVID	CLOSE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Riley	DeHority	Yes	Abstain	Yes	Yes
Dwayne	Edwards	No Response	No Response	Yes	Yes
Alexander	Efird	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kari	Evans	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Melissa	Faircloth	Yes	No Response	No Response	Yes
Stuart	Feigenbaum	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rodney	Gaines	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bryan	Garey	Yes	No Response	Yes	Yes
Dan	Givens	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mike	Gutter	Yes	Yes	No Response	Yes
Piedad	Henao Guerrero	No Response	No Response	Yes	Yes
Rachel	Holloway	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jennifer	Jones	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lara	Khansa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Evan	Lavender-Smith	No Response	Yes	No Response	No Response
Lee	Learman	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Renee	LeClair	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rachel	Maizel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Joseph	Merola	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Laurel	Miner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nicole	Pitterson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kevin	Pitts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lane	Robertson	No Response	Yes	Yes	Yes
Amber	Robinson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shahed	Sanuri	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kiera	Schneiderman	No Response	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yohan	Sequeira	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sally	Shupe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Debra	Stoudt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Emily	Tirrell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stephanie	Trout	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tyler	Walters	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Robert	Weiss	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paul	Winistorfer	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Response
Serena	Young	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gennelle	Chatman	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
Bryan	Garey	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
Lu	Liu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Proposed for insertion in University Council Constitution following the Virginia Tech Principles of Shared Governance.

Scope of Shared Governance

It is not possible to anticipate every possible situation that may arise in order to define precisely what matters are within the scope of the university's shared governance system in contrast to those that may be considered operational or under the authority of the administration or the Board of Visitors. Generally, matters appropriate for policy development, revision, or discontinuance through shared governance are those that fall within the charges of the university and senate commissions as specified in the University Council Constitution.

However, consistent with the Virginia Tech Principles of Shared Governance pertaining to clarity of roles and authority and accountability, matters specifically excluded from the shared governance system include but are not limited to:

- Setting the university's legislative priorities
- Actions to comply with legal and regulatory requirements and directives from the Board of Visitors
- Personnel matters involving individuals, including but not limited to special awards, hiring decisions, promotion and tenure decisions, compensation decisions, disciplinary actions, non-reappointment decisions, severance actions, etc.
- Enrollment planning
- Budgetary decisions and other fiscal, investment, banking, and contractual matters
- Tuition and fees decisions
- Decisions regarding the university's organizational structure, such as the creation, realignment, or elimination of colleges
- Capital project decisions
- Campus master plan and subsidiary plans
- Real property/physical plant matters including acquisitions, demolition, easements, leases, renovations, sales, space planning and allocation decisions, etc.
- Services provided by the university such as housekeeping, dining, maintenance, health care, career services
- Matters involving the Virginia Tech Foundation, any of its subsidiary foundations, and any university-related corporations.
- Fundraising priorities and advancement activities including but not limited to fundraising, communications, and marketing
- Commemorative tributes
- Partnerships or affiliations with external entities
- Safety and security policy matters under the purview of the University's Safety and Security Policy Committee.
- Litigation and potential litigation
- Work of the Office of Audit, Risk and Compliance and the Office of Export and Secure Research Compliance
- Other operational matters and administrative policies promulgated by vice presidents and presidential policy memoranda. (Refer to www.policies.vt.edu.)

Questions arising about the appropriateness of a matter for shared governance will be settled by the University Council Cabinet upon consultation, if necessary, with the Vice President for Policy and Governance and Legal Counsel.

Matters not within the scope of shared governance may be communicated within the shared governance network for informational purposes.

DRAFT

Proposed Changes – UC Constitution

Article II. Purpose –

Existing:

In order for this system to function as intended, the roles and authority of its different components as presented in this document must be maintained, and participants in shared governance are expected to adhere to these statements of purpose, function, or charge. Senate and commission charges identify the areas of legislative authority and responsibility for the relevant body. These charges are not exhaustive: when questions arise regarding the relevance of the topic of a resolution to a commission or senate charge, they will be addressed to the parliamentarian and, if necessary, the University Council Cabinet. Per Article III Section 3 of the University Council Bylaws, the University Council Cabinet will review all resolutions for agreement with the commission charge. Determination of the authority of a commission to advance a resolution rests with the University Council Cabinet and the University Council.

Proposed:

In order for this system to function as intended, the roles and authority of its different components as presented in this document must be maintained, and participants in shared governance are expected to adhere to these statements of purpose, function, or charge. Senate and commission charges identify the areas of legislative authority and responsibility for the relevant body. These charges are not exhaustive: when questions arise regarding the relevance of the topic of a resolution to a commission or senate charge, they will be addressed to the parliamentarian and, if necessary, the University Council Cabinet. Per Article III Section 3 of the University Council Bylaws, the University Council Cabinet will review all resolution proposals for agreement with the commission charge and appropriateness for the system of shared governance. At its discretion, University Council Cabinet may delegate limited authority to the Office of the Vice President for Policy and Governance to approve resolution proposals that clearly fall within a commission's charge, and the OVPPG will regularly inform the University Council Cabinet of all such decisions; University Council Cabinet retains veto power over all such decisions made by the Office of the Vice President for Policy and Governance. Ultimate determination of the authority of a commission to advance a resolution rests with the University Council Cabinet and the University Council.

Article IV. Membership, Section 1. Composition

Proposed:

[note: never attends]

Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs [since COIA is a university commission, as is CEOD, which already has a VP on University Council]

Four representatives elected by the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

One representative elected by the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs

Unless chairs of university and senate commissions are already serving on University Council through another affiliation, they will serve as ex officio, non-voting members of University Council concurrent with their term as commission chair to enable them to introduce and make a motion for approval of a resolution from their commission.

Revisions to the membership of the University Council follow the procedures for amendments contained in Article XIII of this constitution. Changes to titles of ex officio members of University Council or University Council Cabinet that are not accompanied by a significant role change may be made without following the amendment procedures.

Article VI. University Council Cabinet, Section 3. Membership

Question: Membership of University Council includes the Department Heads Council Executive Committee co-chairs, and the Membership of the University Council Cabinet includes one representative of the Department Heads Council Executive Committee. Members of the Cabinet are required to be members of University Council or to attend University Council meetings. Would it make sense to change the representative on Cabinet to be one of the co-chairs?

Article VII Senates, Section 2. Functions –

Existing:

While senates have the right to consider any matter of general interest to their respective members and to seek wider discourse on these topics within our system of shared governance, concerns that fall outside senate or commission purviews as delineated in this constitution may not be advanced as resolutions.

Proposed:

While senates have the right to consider any matter of general interest to their respective members and to seek wider discourse on these topics within our system of shared governance, concerns that fall outside senate or commission purviews as delineated in this constitution and/or outside the scope of University Council or otherwise inappropriate for the system of shared governance may not be advanced as resolutions.

Article VIII. Commissions, Section 2. Responsibilities

Proposed – Add new paragraph at the end of the section, as follows:

In some cases, a commission may have other non-policy-making functions that do not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council. Such functions are stated explicitly in a commission's charge.

Section 7. Senate Commissions – Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (CAPFA)

Existing:

Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (CAPFA)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Administrative and Professional (A/P) Faculty Senate policies and procedures affecting the working conditions of A/P faculty. Areas for consideration include morale of administrative and professional faculty; procedures for appointing, non-reappointing, evaluating, disciplining, recognizing, and promoting administrative and professional faculty; benefits, educational and personal leave, and extra-university professional activity; and matters of equity and diversity that affect A/P faculty. The commission is also responsible for reviewing allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct against any A/P faculty member and grievances advanced to the level of the executive vice president and provost or the vice president for human resources and for advising these administrators prior to their taking action.

Proposed:

Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (CAPFA)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Administrative and Professional (A/P) Faculty Senate policies and procedures affecting the working conditions of A/P faculty. Areas for consideration include morale of administrative and professional faculty; procedures for appointing, non-reappointing, evaluating, disciplining, recognizing, and promoting administrative and professional faculty; benefits, educational and personal leave, and extra-university professional activity; and matters of equity and diversity that affect A/P faculty.

Section 7. Senate Commissions – Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs (CGPSA)

Existing:

Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs (CGPSA)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Graduate and Professional Student Senate policies and procedures concerning graduate and professional student life and morale. Areas for consideration include working conditions for graduate assistants, graduate research assistants, and graduate teaching assistants; graduate and professional student relations with peers, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and the community; policy matters related to graduate and professional student conduct; graduate and professional student organizations, social life, and recreation; and residential life, health, safety, and quality of graduate and professional student-related services.

Proposed:

Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs (CGPSA)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Graduate and Professional Student Senate policies and procedures concerning graduate and professional student life and morale. Areas for consideration include working conditions for graduate assistants, graduate research assistants, and graduate teaching assistants; graduate and professional student relations with peers, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and the community; policy matters related to graduate and professional student conduct; graduate and professional student organizations, social life, and recreation; residential life; and student well-being.

Section 7. Senate Commissions – Commission on Research (COR)

Existing:

Commission on Research (COR)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning research and research faculty. Areas for consideration include sponsored programs, core programs and interdisciplinary research; intellectual property; animal care and human subjects; indirect costs and returned overhead; research facilities, centers and institutes, and library resources; and liaison with affiliated corporations and institutes.

Proposed:

Commission on Research (COR)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning research and research faculty. Areas for consideration include sponsored programs, core programs and interdisciplinary research; intellectual property; animal care and human subjects; indirect costs and returned overhead; research facilities, centers and institutes, and library resources; and liaison with affiliated corporations and institutes. The Commission on Research also conducts reviews of centers and institutes as described in Policy 13005; this function does not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council.

Section 7. Senate Commissions – Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs

Existing:

Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs (CUSA)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Undergraduate Student Senate policies and procedures pertaining to the undergraduate student experience at Virginia Tech. Areas for consideration include undergraduate student wellbeing, inclusion, and morale; undergraduate student relations with peers, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and the community; policy matters related to undergraduate student conduct; undergraduate student organizations, social life, and recreation; employment, placement, and counseling; and residential and campus life, health, safety, and quality of undergraduate student related services.

Proposed:

Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs (CUSA)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Undergraduate Student Senate policies and procedures pertaining to the undergraduate student experience at Virginia Tech. Areas for consideration include undergraduate student wellbeing, inclusion, and morale; undergraduate student relations with peers, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and the community; policy matters related to undergraduate student conduct; undergraduate student organizations, social life, and recreation; employment and placement; residential and campus life; and undergraduate student well-being. The Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs also approves the constitutions of all University Chartered Student Organizations (UCSOs) except the student senates; this function does not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council.

Section 7. Senate Commissions – Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

Existing:

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies (CUSP)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning undergraduate academic matters. Areas for consideration include library resources, admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, the Undergraduate Honor System and study environment, including approval of changes to the Undergraduate Honor Code; In-Honors programs, undergraduate curricular standards and expectations, advising, and instruction; student honors and awards; financial aid, scheduling, and registration.

Proposed:

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies (CUSP)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning undergraduate academic matters. Areas for consideration include library resources, admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, the Undergraduate Honor System and study environment, including approval of changes to the Undergraduate Honor Code; In-Honors programs, undergraduate curricular standards and expectations, advising, and instruction; student honors and awards; financial aid, scheduling, and registration. The commission also is responsible for conducting an annual review of the university academic catalog, in coordination with the Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies, to ensure that it is in alignment with university policies and is otherwise accurate. Such reviews do not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council. Any policy changes determined to be necessary will be considered through the normal resolution approval process.

Section 7. Senate Commissions – Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies

Existing:

Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies (CGPSP)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning graduate and professional academic matters. Areas for consideration include admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, commencement; registration and scheduling; graduate curricular standards and expectations, advising, and instruction, both of and by graduate students; research involving graduate students; financial assistance including assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships; the graduate and professional honor systems, including approval of changes to the Graduate Honor Codes; and library resources.

Proposed:

Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies (CGPSP)

Charge: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning graduate and professional academic matters. Areas for consideration include admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, commencement; registration and scheduling; graduate curricular standards and expectations, advising, and instruction, both of and by graduate students; research involving graduate students; financial assistance including assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships; the graduate and professional honor systems, including approval of changes to the Graduate Honor Codes; and library resources. The commission is also responsible for conducting an annual review of the university academic catalog, in coordination with the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, to ensure that it is in alignment with university policies and is otherwise accurate. Such reviews do not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council. Any policy changes determined to be necessary will be considered through the normal resolution approval process.

Article XI. Meetings and Procedures, Section 1. Parliamentary Procedures.

Existing:

The latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order [Webster's New World Robert's Rules of Order Simplified and Applied]*, subject to special rules as may be adopted by University Council, shall govern the procedures of the University Council and its internal and related components.

Proposed:

The latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, subject to special rules as may be adopted by University Council, shall govern the procedures of the University Council and its internal and related components.

Article XI. Meetings and Procedures, Section 2. University Council Procedures

Proposed: [New Paragraph 4]

4. Any commission and committee minutes approved since the last University Council meeting will also be included on the University Council agenda for information purposes. In addition, a listing of any

degrees approved or discontinued since the last University Council meeting will be included on the University Council agenda for information purposes.

Article XII. University Mission Initiatives

In spring 2023, University Council Cabinet was asked to consider a matter for consideration as a university mission initiative. After much discussion, Cabinet determined that the matter was already in implementation phase and thus not appropriate for the UMI process. However, it was the consensus of Cabinet members that this section of the UC Constitution needs to be revised and expanded upon to include more guidance (i.e., specific criteria and examples) to enable them to make a determination in the future as to whether a matter is appropriate for the UMI process.

Proposed: It is recommended that a small committee including some individuals who were part of the creation of the UMI concept be involved in that revision process.

Article XIII. Amendments to the University Council Constitution or Bylaws, Section 3. Approval of Amendments to the Bylaws

Existing:

An amendment to the University Council Bylaws becomes effective upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the Council members present and voting, provided that a quorum has been reached, and approval by the president.

Proposed:

An amendment to the University Council Bylaws becomes effective upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the Council members present and voting, provided that a quorum has been reached, and approval by the president. Changes to the titles of any ex officio members or chairs of the commissions and committees included in the bylaws that are not accompanied by a significant role change may be made without following these amendment procedures.

Article IV. Membership, Section 1. Composition

Article IV. Membership, Section 2. Voting Privileges

Article VI. University Council Cabinet, Section 3. Membership

Proposed:

Restore voting privileges of the Vice President for Policy and Governance